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Vol. 89

NOVEMBER, 1949

No. 11

AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

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HAMILTON, ILLINOIS

November, 1949

Managing Editor—G. H. Cale

Editors—M. G. Dadant, Frank C. Pellett, Roy A. Grout

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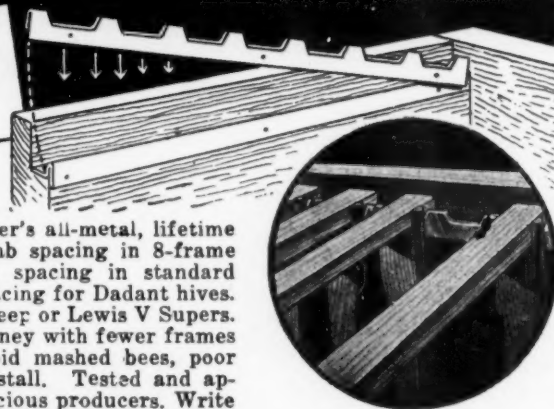
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• As We

Moses Quinby

IN ANOTHER COLUMN OF THIS MAGAZINE Dr. E. F. Phillips begins a story of Moses Quinby, which will run in one or more succeeding numbers. While his story has little to do with beekeeping, it is the result of original research by Phillips into the early history of Quinby.

In this age of hustle and bustle, worry and anxiety, uncertainty and doubt, we need to hold fast to some of the qualities exemplified by Quinby. Our older readers, like the writer himself, will have, through the bee journals, felt akin to a personal acquaintance with those two of our builders of American Beekeeping: Langstroth who gave us the modern hive and the loose-hanging frame and Quinby, who frankly stated that Langstroth had antedated him, but who nevertheless was perhaps America's first "commercial producer" as well as father of the bee smoker and the deep frame, and the builder of one of the earliest extractors when every beekeeper who wanted one had to make his own.

Dr. Phillips is to be commended for having dug out this early history of Moses Quinby. We feel it equally our duty to record it in these columns. It is to be hoped that Phillips may yet realize his ambition to write a book about Quinby. It would be a worth-while project. While such books can seldom be made to yield financial results, yet they have just as important a place in the beekeeping literature as does the more profitable and more salable popular or technical textbook.

Honey a Cheap Food

THE PUBLIC SEEMS TO LOOK UPON honey as a luxury rather than as a staple food. The housewife who expects to put milk, butter and oranges on her table every day too often thinks of honey as something only for special occasions.

The beekeeping industry needs to do more to convince the consumer that the price of honey

in relation to other products is low instead of high as seems to be the general impression.

Many years ago the Food and Dairy Department of Iowa issued a bulletin giving the food value of a number of common products. The following appeared in that list as of equal value for table use:

Honey 7 ounces
Milk one quart
Cream cheese 5, 6 ounces
Eggs 10
Round beefsteak 12 ounces
Boneless codfish 15 ounces
Oranges 8
Walnuts 8½ ounces.

If the housewife will take that list to her grocer she will be likely to discover, greatly to her surprise that the honey is the cheapest item in the list.

Our markets are suffering for lack of information on the part of the housewife as to the character and value of honey. What the industry needs is to tell the world what we have to offer. Once there is a proper understanding of the place that honey should fill in the diet there will be no marketing problem.

Don't Follow the Crowd

WHEN EVERYTHING IS BOOMING IS A good time to stop, look and listen. For every action there will be a corresponding reaction. Likewise when it looks like the market has gone to pot and there is no longer sufficient demand for a product to pay the cost of production, it is a good time to get in line for the next forward movement.

The writer once knew a very successful business man who made money by reversing the current trend. He was able to make more money in tough times than during booms because bargains were always available then. Beekeeping is no exception to the rule. When there is general discouragement and apiaries are offered for less than the cost of new hives is a good time to get set for the next period of prosperity. The old adage, "It is always darkest just before

See It •



dawn," applies to other things than daylight and darkness.

Interesting Bee Meetings

WE HAVE HEARD EXPRESSED OF LATE years that bee meetings do not have the interest that they did in the olden days when most discussions were on bee behavior and the speaker had to defend himself against the vociferous opinion of some of his listeners. The old bee journals are full of such discussions.

Interestingly the bee department of the Farmer's Gazette (Eire) gives these impressions: "To be a beekeeper the first and most essential qualification is to be able to argue. You must be able to argue, you must enjoy arguing, and you must argue on every possible occasion. The argument must be friendly and chiefly for the sake of argument."

Comb Honey In Demand

REPORTS COMING TO THIS OFFICE indicate that in some markets the demand for extracted honey is slow while bulk comb or section honey moves readily. Beekeepers who have continued to produce a good grade of comb honey seldom complain of lack of demand. At the time of the invention of the extractor one of the leaders in our industry expressed the fear that it would be the ruin of the honey producing business. Had it not been for the passage of the Pure Food Law his prophecy might have been fulfilled since it became so easy to adulterate honey in the liquid state.

No successful imitation of comb honey has yet appeared and the producer enjoys a special advantage because of this fact. Once removed from the comb, honey loses some of its elusive aroma and many consumers refuse to accept it. There is a special demand for comb honey that is of great value to the industry and which should be supplied at all times.

The production of nicely finished sections of comb honey is an art which deserves an extra reward and which is only possible under con-

ditions with a favorable honeyflow. It is to be hoped that those who are able to do so will see that the comb honey demand is fully supplied.

Losses For Lack of Bees

THE PUBLIC APPEARS TO HAVE LITTLE realization of the extent of loss for lack of bees to insure proper pollination. So many cases of light crops or of crop failure are everywhere in evidence that it would seem that the reason should be better understood. If it were possible to secure estimates of the acreage of insect pollinated crops which show unprofitable returns due to poor pollination and compare them with those with full pollination the result would be startling.

All over the Mid-west we find fields of clover with yields of seed too scant to be worth harvesting while not far away are fields returning several bushels per acre. Good growing conditions with everything favorable except the lack of bees bring only disappointment in far too many cases.

When growers come forward with the statement that they have increased yields of seeds or fruit four or more times over by concentrating bees within reach of the opening blossoms one wonders why more attention is not given to their reports.

Wild pollinating insects are disappearing at a rapid rate and agriculture is more and more dependent upon the honey bee for such service. Losses from lack of pollination run into the hundreds of millions and promise to become even larger before the public wakes up to the necessity of providing necessary conditions to meet the problem.

Provision for pollination is fast becoming as essential to success as the need for planting, cultivating, spraying or other regular activity.

The loss of soil fertility from continuous cultivation of fields that might have been planted to meadows or pastures but for the lack of seed can never be estimated. This loss can never be replaced.



View of apiary and honey house at Fort Shafter, Oahu, T. H. (Signal Corps Photo)

The Disappearance of AFB in Hawaii

by Major Chester B. Keck

WITH all the discussion about the control of American foulbrood with sulfa drugs as compared with the inspection-burning method of treatment, it may be of interest to beekeepers to get the conclusions of one who has observed the practical disappearance of AFB in an area where inspection was carried on for only the year 1932 with a recheck of infected colonies in 1933.

My interest in beekeeping started at Kansas State College where I was associated with Dr. C. L. Farrar. After graduation, apiary inspection work during the 1928 season was carried on under Dr. R. L. Parker, Professor of Apiculture and State Apiarist. In an area in southeast Kansas not only AFB was prevalent but also European foulbrood and sacbrood to a lesser extent. I was an enthusiast of the fumigation-burning method of AFB treatment.

After this experience a position to do research work in Florida for the U. S. Bureau of Entomology was accepted. This work was unrelated to beekeeping, but colonies of bees were kept and methods of inspection and

control of AFB in Florida observed. The writer took active part in research in the campaign to eradicate the Mediterranean fly and later was transferred to Honolulu to study fruit flies in the islands.

A few months after arrival in Honolulu, a swarm of bees was caught and since 1931 I have cared for up to 25 colonies, mostly located on the University of Hawaii campus. At different times I taught a course in beekeeping at the University.

During the early 1930's there was a lot of AFB on the island of Oahu and in 1932 the Territorial Board of Agriculture and Forestry instituted apiary inspection under Mr. D. T. Fullaway, the entomologist, with a recheck of treated colonies in 1933. The Territorial Legislature was asked to appropriate money for apiary inspection work, but because of economic conditions this was not provided, so there has been no inspection since 1932.

While inspection was in progress I wanted to move my bees to the University campus. The custodian of grounds there had about 10 colonies

on the campus which were badly infected with AFB. The Board of Agriculture and Forestry inspectors were contacted and the apiary cleaned up, only one colony remaining. This one was strong and not infected. Clinical diagnosis was checked by microscopic identification of the AFB organism (*Bacillus larvae*) by the bacteriologist of the Board of Agriculture and Forestry. My bees were moved to the same site and arrangements made to look after the one colony left by the custodian in order to keep a watch for AFB.

This colony was observed for several years and although AFB appeared in the apiary on two or three occasions, this hive remained free from infection. Whenever AFB appeared, the shaking and burning treatment was used. The last infected colony was found about 1937. The hive was marked and the entrance contracted with the idea of showing a friend who was taking up beekeeping how to identify and treat the disease. Ten days elapsed before treatment was possible and when the fire was started, the hole dug, and

the bees shaken no disease was evident. This same "budding beekeeper" has had from 10 to 40 colonies ever since in Honolulu and it is believed he has never observed AFB.

When the disease first became established on Hawaii and Molokai it was quite as devastating as on Oahu. However on those islands there has never been any official inspection. Mr. Fullaway recently stated that no instance of the disease has been reported there for several years.

During 1944 and 1945, as Insect and Rodent Control Officer for the Army in the mid-Pacific, I was asked to build up an apiary of 50 colonies with the idea of sending bees to forward areas for pollination purposes. This was to help revegetate the islands devastated by war and to pollinate vegetables at hydroponics laboratories in forward areas. During the establishment and improvement of the apiary, colonies were picked up at various army posts and other points on the island of Oahu and transferred to movable frame hives. During this time the rainfall was approximately 50% below normal and robbing was rampant but not one cell of American foulbrood was found in three seasons.

The last cases of AFB known to the writer were in the two largest apiaries on the island of Oahu. When this article was contemplated, Dr. E. C. Alfonsus, owner of the Hawaiian Honey Company which has 800 colonies, was consulted and he agreed that AFB has practically disappeared. He found only two cases in his 800 colonies, those were being watched and would be burned if they didn't clean up the disease.

Conclusions:

1. It is evident from the above discussion that resistance to American foulbrood has had a part in the disappearance of that disease.

2. During the early days of AFB it was believed that one way it was disseminated was through the commercial distribution of honey. However, as beekeepers have become educated and the incidence of infection has been reduced, the amount of contaminated honey in commercial channels has lowered. The blending of extracted honey would tend to reduce the construction of *Bacillus* larvae spores to a point where it would not cause disease.

(Please turn to page 542)

(Top) Major Keck demonstrating a wire embedder and other equipment.
(Bottom) The author examining brood comb. (Signal Corps Photos).





Early Experiences of A Beginner

by William B. Zeleny

(Upper left) My original colony in 1947 which netted a total surplus of 8-lbs.
(Lower left) My single out-apiary (junior size). The corn stalks on the north and west make a good windbreak for winter.

SINCE I am but a boy of fourteen, my first attempt at writing may not be too expertly done, but I hope you will bear with me and read on. This article should bring back memories of when you opened your first hive and were shocked by all those little things buzzing out, each one armed with a stinger! It is written to relate to you my early problems, so here goes:

My father and I were riding out to "the Beeman's" to bring home my first hive of bees. This was in the spring of '47. We found him out at his honey house getting his extractor ready for a summer of hard work. I told him that I had read about keeping bees, and I didn't quite understand the manipulation of the colony. Oh, how I wished I hadn't asked that question! Immediately he walked over to the nearest hive, yanked off the cover, pulled out a

frame, and shouted "Come here and I'll show you." Well, I decided to keep my distance until later, when I donned gloves, veil, and anything else I could possibly squeeze into that would keep the bees away from me.

Although frightened at my first look at the bees, we put the hive in the back of the car along with two shallow supers and a queen excluder. Upon reaching home we carried the hive around through the back yard to its previously selected location, where we placed it on a few cement blocks. NOW came the horrible task of removing the little strip of screen from the entrance. I had visions of thousands of bees rushing out at me as I pulled it loose. Well, after several attempts my bravery ran out, and coming to my rescue my father calmly removed the screen. There was no catastrophe, no excitement, no rushing bees; only a few workers poking out their heads to see what was going on. I was much relieved.

Thus I obtained my start in beekeeping. Now I would like to relate a few of the various troubles which constantly arose.

Although I obtained but a few pounds of honey in 1947, my real problems didn't begin until 1948. I had planned to start four new colonies by means of nuclei and new hives, both of which I had ordered from the same firm. The hives came just a few days before the bees. I really had to hurry to get them nailed together and painted with two coats in time for the nuclei. The paint was still sticky when I installed the bees, but they didn't seem to mind it. Since the source of nectar at home was extremely scarce,

I rented a small plot of land about a mile and a half away and placed them there.

Much to my sorrow, this year was as bad as the last. My four new colonies came too late to build up for the main flow, which came in early May from the tulip tree. All they



did was to fill their full depth food chambers and to build up sufficiently for winter.

For my home colony, however, I had great expectations. It had built up to an extreme strength, and the tulip tree flow looked like it was going to be one of the best yet. Then everything began to happen at once. One of the most disappointing factors in beekeeping began to act (Please turn to page 537)



Congress Approves Price Support For Honey

On October 18, 1949, the Conference Committee of members of the House of Representatives and the Senate agreed to a compromise farm bill which included price support for honey at 60 to 90 per cent of parity. The bill later was approved by both the Senate and the House in the final minutes of the first session of Congress. It still must be signed by President Truman, but there seems little likelihood at this writing that this will not be done.

This news comes after a historical, as well as hysterical, period of waiting for the honey industry.

On August 30, 1949, following a conference at the White House, the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry reported to the floor of the Senate the Anderson Bill, S-2522, without honey being included. This made it necessary for an amendment to be passed by the Senate to include honey for price support. Industry leaders and the Federation immediately went to work to accomplish this.

One representative of the industry made a special trip to Washington to contact Senators Anderson, Lucas, and Thye. Hundreds of letters went to Washington. It is reported that Arkansas' Senator McClellan alone received more than fifty letters urging the need for price support. Then word was received that Senator Watkins of Utah and Senator Thye of Minnesota both were going to introduce identical amendments to include honey in the farm bill. The Watkins Amendment was cosponsored by Senators Young of North Dakota, Milliken and Johnson of Colorado, Lucas of Illinois, Gillette of Iowa, and Downey of California. This gave substantial strength to the honey amendment and word was received October 3 that the amendment had been passed by the Senate.

Then came the news that the Senate had rejected the Anderson Bill due to major differences over support levels for the basic farm crops, and the farm bill was sent back to Committee with 48 hours to report back to the floor of the Senate

a satisfactory bill, or the Anderson Bill was lost. But by October 12, the Anderson Bill had been reported back to the Senate and was passed that day. The Anderson Bill then went to Conference between leaders of the House and the Senate. It looked for days as though no possible compromise would be reached and the bill, which included price support for honey, would be lost. But word was received on October 18 that a compromise farm bill had been approved by the Conference Committee and that the bill still included price support for honey at 60 to 90 per cent of parity.

The Number 1 Objective of the American Beekeeping Federation this year was—Price support, preferably in the form of a loan program, that would assure the beekeeper 75 per cent of parity or 12 cents in bulk containers, whichever was greater. The Federation has worked hard to accomplish this Objective, as well as those other objectives of its Washington program. Thirty-two individual trips have been made to Washington in this effort, largely at the expense of those individuals. But it now appears that these efforts are to bear fruit for the entire beekeeping industry.

The Federation now is immediately requesting the Secretary of Agriculture to put into effect at the earliest possible moment, a price support program for honey.

The details of a price support program for honey will have to be worked out between industry leaders and officials of the Department of Agriculture. As soon as these details have been settled, they will be announced by the Department of Agriculture. Until such time, no accurate statement can be made in this regard.

The Federation has suggested to the Department, in its previous proposals, a purchase-agreement program, inasmuch as this seemed to be a method that would be simple to

administer and would be satisfactory to producers in a great majority of the cases involved. Under such a program, the Department of Agriculture signs a simple agreement with the honey producer that the Department will purchase his honey by a certain date in 1950, providing he has not sold it before that time, and agrees to pay the producer the support levels providing when delivered to some central point it is of a specified grade. The purchase agreement is not a loan mortgage and, thereby, a negotiable document, but it is believed that any producer with a satisfactory standing in his community could go to a bank and get sufficient money to finance his operations until such time as his honey either is sold or turned over to the Government. Such a program requires no certified storage, no inspection at the time the loan mortgage is drawn up, and no sealing by the Government.

At this time, the Federation is offering to the officials of the Department the help of a representative group from the honey industry to work out the details of the price support program. This will include the method of administering the program, the support levels, grades, perhaps color and/or flavor, and container requirements. It is sincerely hoped that this will result in a program that will be satisfactory to the beekeeping industry.

It is the belief of the American Beekeeping Federation that a price-support program for honey is the immediate answer to stabilizing our honey markets and reestablishing a prosperous beekeeping industry needed for the pollination of more than fifty food and seed crops. We are grateful to the many representatives in Congress who have made this possible through legislation. But we fully believe that this should be help only of a temporary nature, enabling the industry to organize effectively and to solve its own problems ultimately through co-operation in an effective marketing program.



Wintering Bees on the 46th Parallel

by George Hamilton

Two views of the same yard packed for winter with shavings, tar paper wrap, and a lower entrance.



FROM my own experience overwintered hives work out for best results in honey production in our section. Our congratulations to the southern package bee producers who we think are doing a very good job. The trouble with using package bees here to replace bees destroyed in the fall is the short build-up season. Our clover flow starts around June 10, and as it takes a minimum of at least two months to build up a three-pound package of bees, that means that they must be hived on or before April 10.

Winter is just around the corner on its way out during the first two weeks of April; pollen is starting to come in from willow, poplar, maple, etc. but no nectar. Receiving package bees at this time in our climate means hives have to be handled in cold weather, causing broken drawn combs. The nights are still cold and frost forms inside the hives, necessitating the wrapping or packing of hives. Country roads are in bad condition too. However, we do not have the sweeping winds one would find on the open prairies, as our apiaries are in valleys with trees as natural windbreaks.

There are many bees in a three-pound package when seen in a shipping cage, but with the honeyflow only two months away there are really very few. Five-pound packages are out of the question as the returns would not warrant their purchase.

The following is my method for overwintering our bees. They are packed in three inches of dry planer shavings in a tar paper cylinder with one opening and that a lower one. Inner covers are left on and have

two holes 2½ inches in diameter. On top of this cover is placed a bag half filled with shavings. We feel that this item is the trick in good wintering, as all excess moisture rises and is retained in the bag. Having only lower entrances, there is no draft in the hives, and they are covered with snow very early in the winter and stay that way until we shovel them out during the maple sap flow.

As early in April as possible, we open the top of the packing and remove the wet bag. As we winter with a brood chamber and super, one glance will show how much of the 50 pounds of honey is left. Should this be low, we pour five to ten pounds of dry sugar on top of the inner cover and close the wrapping.

We always find the first or second cycle of brood finished when we examine the hives in April, showing that the queens start laying in late January. The hives are off to a good start and way ahead of package bees, so by June 10 our only trouble is watching for swarming. Our average per hive is around 60 to 80

pounds and we then have a fall flow from aster and goldenrod. With this method we winter full hives as well as three-frame nuclei in our apiary of fifty colonies and they come through in good condition. We order package bees from the South to use for increase or booster for three-frame nucs, and buy queens for requeening.

Province of Quebec.

Artificial Pollen

The August number of the Journal of Economic Entomology has an article by M. H. Haydak of the University of Minnesota on soybean flour deficiencies for feeding bees, as a substitute for natural pollen. This is probably due, he says, to a deficiency of niacin in the soybean flour. Apparently riboflavin is also in short supply. Brewer's yeast added to the soybean flour apparently compensates for some of the deficiencies.

The Upper Entrance

by Mathias R. Vikla

SEVERAL years ago there lived in a nearby town an old-time beekeeper. His colonies consisted of all kinds of old leaky hives, boxes and nail kegs. He wintered his bees outside with the best of success in spite of the fact that his hives were full of holes and cracks. In winter the only protection he gave them was to cover them on the north and west with old blankets, coats, gunny sacks, and such material.

He always lost some bees from starvation but otherwise they came through strong. At that time we were wintering our bees in the cellar, and I did not pay much attention to his "upper, corner, and everywhere entrances." Later, when we enlarged our number of colonies and for lack of space in the cellar had to winter a part of them outside, I started to think about that old

man's leaky hives. I thought to myself, if those bees could stand so much top and side ventilation and winter well, mine will stand it also. I reasoned this way: Vapor from the bees rises to the highest point of the hive which is the inside of the inner cover, so why not raise the front end of the inner cover by slipping strips of wood shingles under it, and thus provide an entrance of three-eighths of an inch for the whole width of the hive.

This we did, and to keep the inner cover from sagging we put a block about two inches long in the center of that wide top entrance which divided it into two parts. These two openings provide plenty of room for all the vapor to pass out of the hive without clogging it with frost on very cold days as often happens with a small opening, thus rendering it use-

less. We leave the lower entrance open about three-fourths by one and one-half inches.

The hive is wrapped with a thin asphalt paper, but before doing so we put on a shallow empty super or four inch rim between the inner and outer covers. This keeps the outer cover from closing the upper entrance.

We prefer cellar wintering as in the cellar we can winter weak colonies and small nuclei. Nucs are wintered with late-raised queens and these queens are used in the spring if any colonies become queenless.

To meet with success the cellar must be fully ventilated at all times. It must be dry and kept around 45° above zero. It seems to me that the old idea of providing as little ventilation as possible was wrong.

Minnesota.

It May Be Wrong!

by Guy Diemer

WE are advised to use a top entrance during the winter and spring because the warm air generated by the bees contains moisture which will condense on the inner cover and drop on the frames and combs causing mold. If packing is used in an empty super or hive body the results are about the same. Bees will not winter well unless they are kept dry so we let the warm air out of our hives via the top entrance.

During the winter the temperature in the cluster when bees are not rearing brood is about 57° and when they are rearing brood about 95°. We have all opened colonies in the spring and felt the heat from the bees hit our faces. If a single cover is used during the winter the bees will melt ice and snow off the cover, and if a hive is sealed air tight they will melt it at the entrance. If we close the top entrance and place a thermometer under an air tight quilt with the bulb 4 or 5 inches from the cluster when the bees are not rearing brood, it will register 27° when the outside temperature is zero. When it is 15° outside it will register 32° inside the hive, and when it is 30°

outside it will register 39°—it is 27° warmer in the hive when the outside temperature is zero but only 9° warmer when the outside temperature is 30°. If we place the bulb of the thermometer at the edge of the cluster we find the bees try to keep the edge above freezing.

I was not able to get a uniform temperature of a beehive with a top entrance, but if the wind was blowing the temperature was much less than when no top entrance was used. If electric heat is used it takes about twice as much electricity to heat the inside of a hive with a top entrance to a given temperature as it does when no top entrance is used.

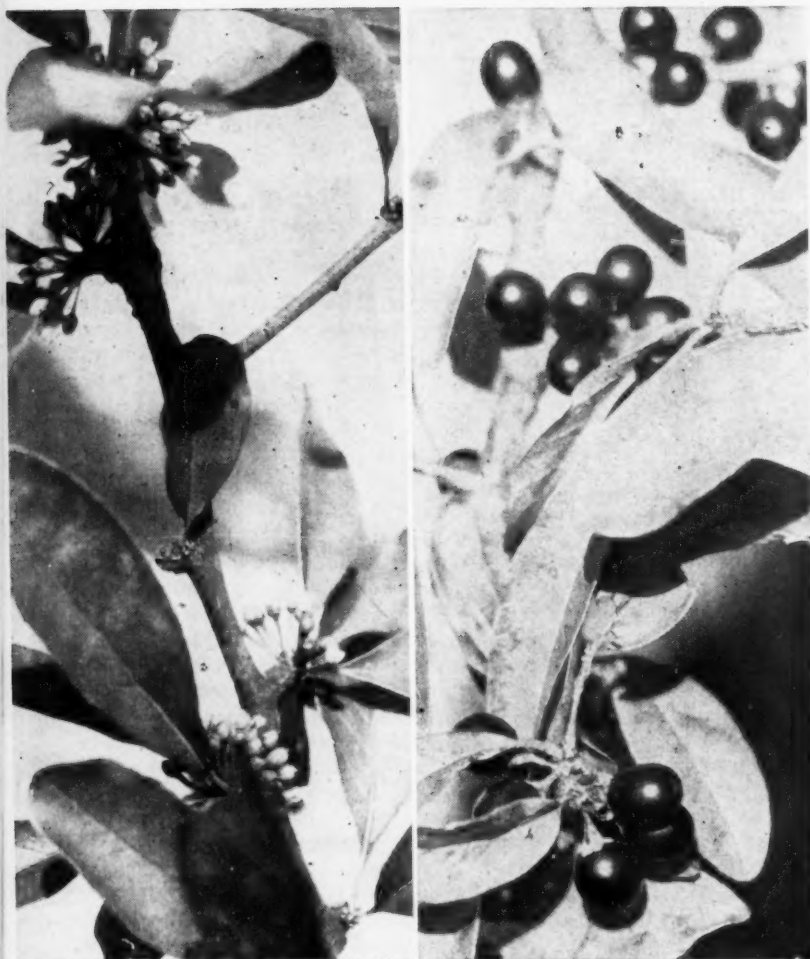
When taking the temperature of colonies of bees, I left the thermometer in the hive for at least two or three days and read the thermometer early in the morning as soon as it was light enough to see. If you place a thermometer under an air tight quilt and look at it about a half hour later it will register about 50° regardless of the outside temperature because the bees will be disturbed and break cluster enough for the heat to escape from inside.

When air conditioning is used,

moisture is added to the air. It is not harmful to breathe moist air and no one has objected to the air in beehives containing moisture. Our problem is not how to let the warm air out of our hives but how to keep the moisture from condensing. All we need to do is to copy the insulation that is in general use. For example, double or storm windows are used on homes or railway coaches so that no moisture will condense on the glass in cold weather. Moisture condenses on the single glass of automobile and busses.

If we close the top entrance, place a thin, air-tight quilt made of newspapers and burlap over a colony of bees, and over this make a dead air space about one inch deep with newspapers and burlap, supported by thin narrow strips of lumber spaced three or four inches apart, no moisture will condense in the hive. My experience has been that the bees will winter better and build faster in the spring without a top entrance if they are insulated with a dead air space over the brood nest.

This form of insulation can be used in many different ways. If too much (Please turn to page 537)



Woolly Buckthorn

by Dr. August P. Biemann,
Missouri Botanical Gardens

Here is a little known, but not a rare plant, which probably is responsible for much of the honey found in bee trees from the Ozark Region on South. It is a slow growing tree on occasion reaching thirty feet in a hundred years, and perfectly at home in the driest, rockiest, most exposed locations typical of the Ozark region. When it competes with the Juniper for space on the worst sites, it is a gnarled and twisted semi-shrub. When it gains a foothold on better locations it becomes a much larger, round-headed tree.

The flowers appear in late July and early August in axillary clusters on the wood produced last year. The berries ripen in October. It is especially interesting to bees and it flowers at a time when the Ozark

Region is beginning to turn brown from the heat and drought. Therefore, it is of value to beekeepers in that area, probably of much greater value than the examination of an occasional specimen would indicate.

It does not mature seed satisfactorily each year and there are some years in which even the flower buds open imperfectly due to heat and drought.

There are few better native plants suited for trimmed hedges or wind breaks about a bee yard. When kept trimmed as a hedge, it produces branches clear to the ground. The branches are armed and very, very stiff, and the oblong leaves are retained until the cold weather some weeks after a killing frost.

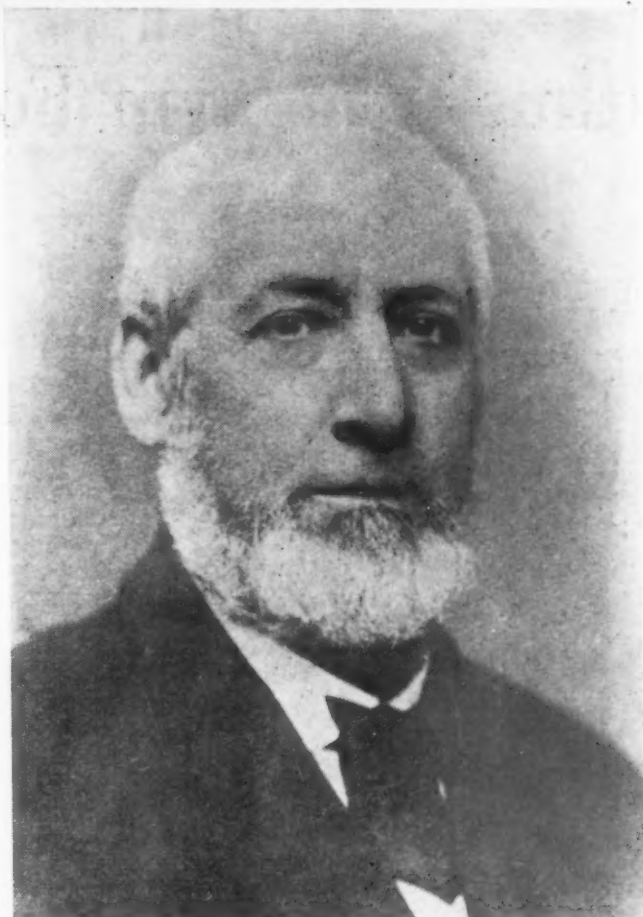
Large trees produce great quantities of flowers which open slowly over a period of two weeks. On a hot, windless day, the fragrance is strong and quite surprising since most of the woodland is seared and brown.

This tree fills in the gap between the Clovers and the Asters and it blooms at a time when good colonies are strong and capable of utilizing the available nectar.

(Top) Flowers, and fruit and foliage in December.

(Bottom) Woolly buckthorn in its native habitat on an Ozark ridge.





Moses Quinby

Part I — Early Life

by E. F. Phillips

EVERY well-informed beekeeper in New York State has heard of Moses Quinby and knows that he was a pioneer in honey production. Information of that sort is about all that I had about this interesting man up to about three years ago. I knew that he had made one of the first honey extractors on this continent, that he had invented a smoker for subduing bees, and that he devised the first practical knife for removing cappings from honey combs to prepare for extracting the honey. I had located his extractor and brought it to Ithaca, and I had his own personal smoker and the uncapping knife that he had used. But when it came to information about the kind of man Moses Quinby was, I remained as ignorant as any other beeman. Quinby did a lot of writing, but in all that I had read I was unable to detect any place in which he revealed anything about himself.

A couple of years ago Wilbur Cross, then custodian of the regional history collection at Cornell, called me on the phone to ask if I had ever heard of Moses Quinby. I reported having his extractor, uncapping knife and smoker, and since

that indicated that I had heard of the man, Cross told me to hang up and that he would come right up to my office. On arrival he handed me a crayon portrait of Quinby, and I told him where he had obtained it, since there was only one in existence. Having hit the jackpot with the portrait, Cross handed me a small book and asked if I knew where that came from. It was a small diary of Quinby and a real find.

The diary was the record of a trip taken by this green country boy at the age of 21 years, when he went from his home in Greene County all the way to central Ohio, by river boat to Albany, by railroad to Schenectady, by Erie canal boat to Buffalo, by lake boat to Cleveland, and again by canal boat to Massillon, Ohio. This little diary began to reveal the man, and it led me to undertake some real searching for further information about him.

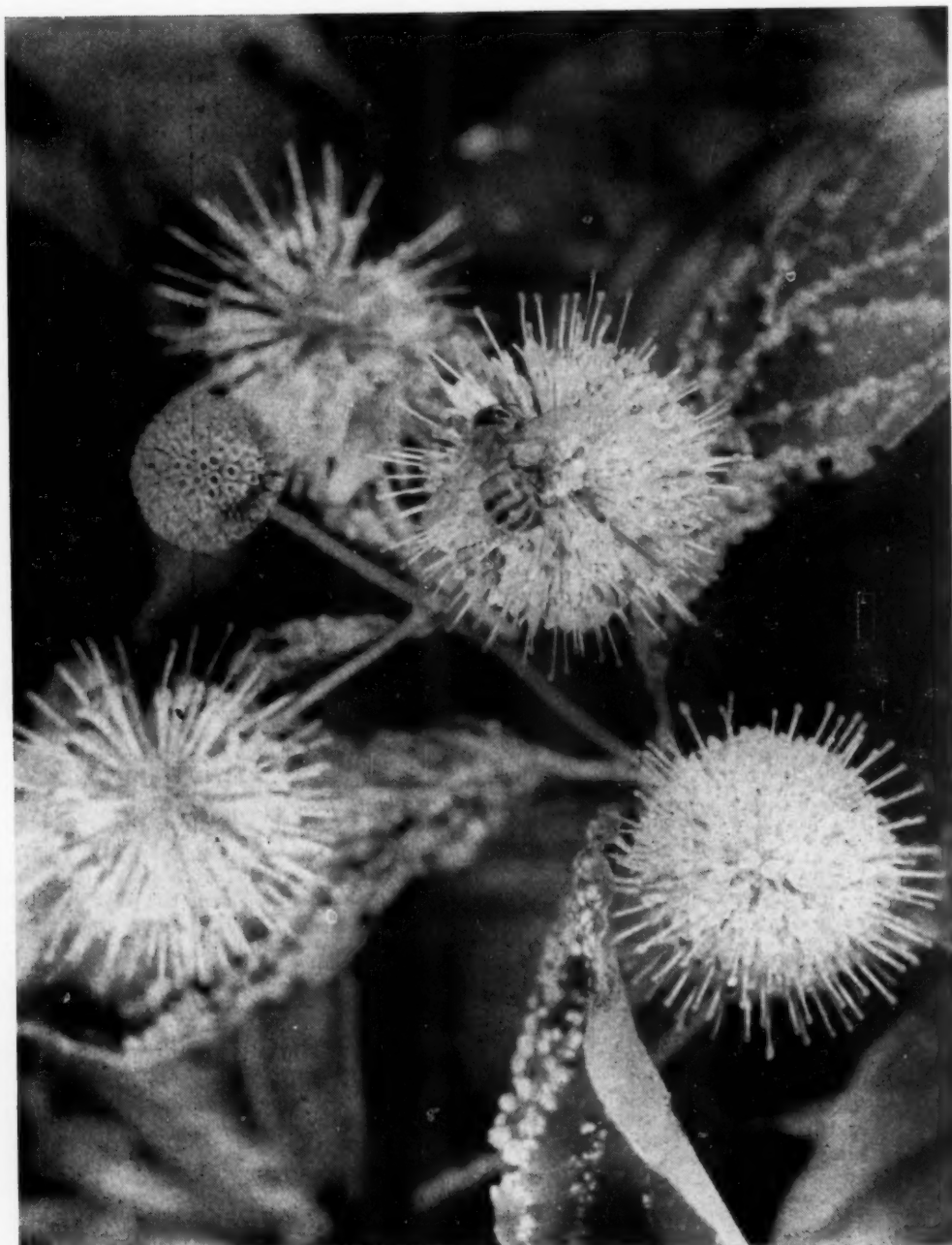
It is useless to go into minute details here, but before I finished I had located a lot of old family letters written by his mother, by his wife and some by Moses Quinby himself. I had records of a social community of which he was a part, and finally I visited the spots where he had

lived, located the home sites, and learned locally much about him and about conditions in those areas when he lived in them. It all adds up to a story of early life in New York State that is of interest to beekeepers, and might be of interest to others.

Moses Quinby was born of Quaker parents in Westchester County, N. Y., in 1810. His grandfather, also named Moses, migrated to Greene County in 1820 and bought a farm, and a few years later his father William also went there with his family of small children. Moses was then twelve years old, and it is not stretching the imagination to suggest the thrill to this boy as they drove over the crude woodland roads toward their new home. From the port town of Coxsackie they went west to the village of Swill Street, where they turned northward to the Pazzi Lampman saw mill, in a valley still called Honey Hollow. You will not be able to find Swill Street on any map, and perhaps the village was never so officially designated, but later it became Johnsonville and is now Uriton. It was once called Swill Street because of a local distillery, and we may imagine that

(Please turn to page 542)

Cephalanthus---Synonym For D



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Cephalanthus blossoms—a good source of light honey in swampy regions.
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Dependability

by Milton H. Stricker

MANY, many words ago some apiarist scribe wrote a description of the honey plants of his particular area. He spoke of honey plants being "dependable" or "undependable" and wondered why it was so. I felt myself wishing there was a dependable plant blooming in the apiary area that I was about to visit; a plant that would take the hungry edge off the colonies I was about to inspect—a yard that was in the transmutation period, that difficult time between the cessation of clover (white, Dutch and alsike) and the beginning of the goldenrod flow.

I approached the yard ready to work and was agreeably surprised that some honey was coming in and bees seemed quite content. I remembered that this particular yard always seemed to surprise me at that time of year which was strange, for there didn't seem to be anything blooming in the area. Yet this yard always did better than its sister yards that were then enjoying (?) a dearth and consuming some of the clover stores, something that I did not enjoy as much as they seemed to. Scouting around I found the very inconspicuous buttonbush, or buttonball, offering its yellow-green flowers to the bees that were avidly carrying away the nectar.

Cephalanthus occidentalis is sometimes called Indian buttonbush and a host of other common names. Yet, it should have one more common name added and as a beekeeper I'd nominate it "Dependable Dandy" since it yields nectar every year and over a long period. It starts to yield with its terminal flower coming slowly into bloom in early July and its bloom lasting about two weeks. At the same time other blossoms in pairs down the stems come out for their period of two weeks, causing an individual plant to bloom until the last of August. What honey plant can tie that record? The bees have collected steadily from it every year during the past twelve. But, alas, all good things have a drawback, and the buttonbush is no exception. Its acreage is so limited and its areas so scattered that I know of no beekeeper who has been able to harvest

surplus from this most dependable of plants, dependable since its yield does not seem to be affected by excessive rainfall or drought.

I felt somewhat ashamed of forgetting about this honey producer until I found that in Everett Oertel's comprehensive bulletin, "Honey and Pollen Plants of the United States," U. S. D. A. Circular 554, only 15 of our 48 states reported it as being a yielder of nectar and none of these listed it as a big producer. Beekeepers in Alabama, Florida, Arkansas, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, and Wisconsin reported its presence, showing that the plant is probably generally distributed throughout the U. S. If not reported by other states, it was either neglected by beekeepers due to its limited acreage or regarded as too unimportant to be listed.

The buttonbush seems well adapted to any type of soil and when grown in wet places, reaches a height of six to eight feet with clumps sometimes reaching a circumference of three or four feet. If cut down, it will bloom just as profusely on stalks only a foot high. It is usually crowned with a terminal blossom which blooms first. Below it in opposite pairs will be several more blossoms which bloom, upper pairs first. When lower pairs are in full bloom, many of the uppermost will have formed a small hard fruit that splits from the bottom upward disclosing two to four seed sections with one seed per section. The ovate leaves are also in alternate pairs below the blossoms occupying the lower part of the smooth chocolate-brown wood of the stem. The flower heads evidently require light since they are usually pushed above the neighboring shrubs and bushes, yet the leaves seem able to complete their functions in partial shade.

The spreading of the plant seems to be slow, probably due to the small number of seeds as compared with its other plant competitors, yet the individual bush grows quite rapidly, even when transplanted in areas that are not as moist as its natural habitat.

If once identified, you will recognize its marblelike flower heads, each with its hundreds of tight yellow-green flowerlets surrounding all sides of the ball. Each flowerlet has a protruding style with its small quantity of light brown pollen which is rubbed upon the bee in her mad scramble for the nectar below. Though the pollen is sometimes gathered, the nectar seems to be the most interesting to all of the many visitors of the plant, mostly Hymenoptera and Lepidoptera, many of these insects depending upon it for a livelihood in the pine-barren areas during the months when there is nothing else in bloom.

Some years ago I tried growing some nectar producing plants and with much care I produced a sizable bed of many varieties in various states of growth and bloom. Proudly I showed the garden to A. J. Boettger, (now a queen raiser of Okeechobee, Florida) who eyed it critically. He asked about the seeding of certain varieties in the fields. I had to admit that most of these plants had to be pampered to get them to grow and I was afraid that they would not take to wild ways without extra care, and certainly would not grow in competition with the weeds already growing in the fields. "Al" scratched his head and said, "Well, what good are they? They'll never offer beekeepers a cup of honey unless they spread themselves!"

Those same words re-echo around me when I think of the buttonbush. Will it grow if I scatter the seeds in other areas or have birds previously scattered the seeds there and did it find the environment foreign to its nature? And what a job to collect the seed and spread it. The seed is scarce and ripens slowly, meaning several trips to each plant before the pod bursts and the seed is lost.

Still my fondest dreams seem to be visions of this plant growing profusely in all the waste lowlands of South Jersey and offering bumper crops of honey with all the dependability with which these few plants offer their nectar to my appreciative bees.

New Jersey.

The Amsterdam Congress

Continued from October

by Dr. J. N. Tennent

Poisoning with Insecticides—

J. Evenius, Germany. "Insect Control and its Influence on Apiculture."

Experiments have demonstrated that the principal contact insecticides used in Germany, DDT insecticides, Hexa-insecticides and E 605 are injurious to bee colonies. Further efforts are necessary to find insecticides not injurious to bees and to secure that those which are harmful are not used injudiciously, e. g., not used in blossom time.

Pollen Analysis—

A. Maurizio, Switzerland. "Pollen Analysis in the Service of Bee Research."

Hitherto pollen analysis has served chiefly to determine the origin of honey. The introduction of the pollen trap has increased our knowledge of the pollen food supplies and their variation in different years and at different times of the day. Analysis of the pollen loads and also of the intestinal contents of the bee has also helped to determine whether sick bees have visited poison plants or plants treated with an insecticide.

Honey—

O. Hammer, Denmark. "Nectar Flow of Red Clover in Denmark."

It has been known for a long time that the main sources of nectar in Denmark are the cruciferous plants, white clover and heather. Recent investigation, particularly of the honey sacs of bees returning from red clover, shows that bees gather great quantities of nectar from this flower and that the nectar is of a high sugar concentration. Red clover is therefore an important source of nectar in Denmark. The light colored bee seems to be better able to gather it than the black.

Marketing of Honey—

A. Lehman, Switzerland. "Marketing and Control of Honey."

This is an outline of methods employed in Switzerland to assist the beekeeper to sell his honey. The main items are a tax on imported honey, honey inspection and grading, cooperative buying and selling.

Bee Behaviour—

C. H. Ribbands, England. "The Foraging Behavior of the Honey

Bee and its Experimental Modification."

Two sets of experiments are described, one dealing with the behavior of marked bees watched as they visited flowers in a specially prepared garden. In the main it is demonstrated that on constant crops continuously replenished, bees keep returning to a sharply defined area. The other set of experiments relates to the behavior of bees after anesthetizing them with carbon dioxide, nitrogen and chloroform. After anesthetizing with carbon dioxide or nitrogen bees cease to gather pollen and gather nectar only. On the other hand chloroform has no aftereffects. These experiments are to be published in full, the first group in the *Journal of Animal Ecology*, the second in the *Journal of Experimental Biology*.

C. B. Dennis, England. "Some Observations on Feeding Colonies of Bees."

Watching bees in an observatory hive, the author concludes that feeding should be resorted to only when absolutely necessary and that spring-
(Please turn to page 542)



M. Trubert, France, editor of
"La Revue Apiculture."



Mr. James Hambleton, Division of
Bee Culture, U. S. D. A.



Dr. H. M. Fraser,
England.



The History of a Breeding Project

PART IV—THE FUTURE

by G. H. Cale, Jr.

In the previous articles a short history of our breeding project has been given. We are now faced with a new year and the problem of making still more progress in breeding work. What avenues of approach are open? Must we continue to use only the Italian race? What do beekeepers desire in their bees? Can a bee be bred for pollination services above any other desirable trait? Will a bee which is productive in the Midwest be equally as productive in the inter-mountain area—in the southern states—in the far eastern states? These questions, and many more, crowd into our minds this winter of 1949. Spring is still around a very long corner as this is written, and all of these questions must be stored up and held in leash until queen rearing weather finally arrives. There is time, then, to muse and conjecture upon the future of this project. So let's just sit back in our chair, snip the bonds which hold our fancies, and let them roam at will.

Scene—Annual meeting of the of the American Beekeeping Federation.

Place—General Assembly room, 16th floor, Hotel Dream, Central City, U. S. A.

Time—December 1970.

There is a general clearing of throats and shuffling of chairs as the second day's assembly of beekeepers gets under way. From the speakers, platform comes the announcement

that Mr. John Doe, an unscheduled speaker, has been granted a few minutes to deliver his message.

Mr. Doe: "Ladies and Gentlemen. Consent has graciously been given for me to bring a matter of grave concern to your attention. The last ten years has seen the gradual disintegration of bee breeding in this country. Where are the beautiful golden bees that used to delight our color perceptions twenty years ago? Very few of them may be purchased today—much to the shame of the industry. What a loss this has been! The time has come for this organization to make an all-out effort to save the bees of our forefathers. We must not, we can not fail in this great task of saving and perpetuating this beautiful and artistic golden color of the bee. I ask this entire organization, and more specifically, the Bee Breeders Committee, to get behind me in this move to save our golden bee from annihilation."

Mr. Doe returns to his chair amidst an ominous silence from the 500 assembled beekeepers.

Chairman: "The regularly scheduled speaker for the day is now in attendance. The chair recognizes Mr. Wise, chairman of the Bee Breeders Committee."

Mr. Wise: "Ladies and Gentlemen. This former short speech has somewhat disturbed the order in which my own talk was to be given. However, to quell the fears which disturb Mr. Doe, I will dwell for a moment upon the subject which he

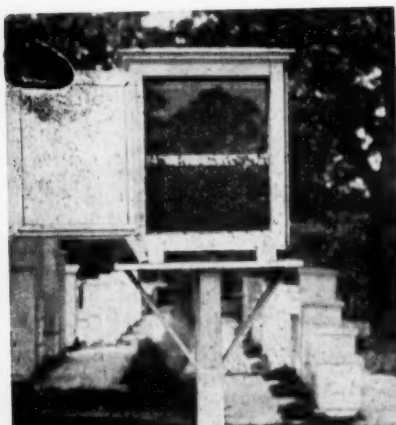
has brought before us. As a result of the past season's work a new hybrid combination has been achieved which it is believed will be the best pollinating bee that has as yet been available to us. As you all know our industry suffered some serious setbacks after the second World War. Relatively low prices of honey and high operational costs combined to force many into other lines of work. The advances made in bee breeding plus the tireless work of this organization gradually brought about a change until, today, we have achieved a degree of prosperity never before achieved by the beekeepers of this or any other nation.

To a great extent this prosperity and well-being has been brought about by the increased and ever-increasing use of the honey bee as a pollinator of essential crops. This new pollinating bee which I have previously mentioned—hybrid combination number 1134—should be of some satisfaction to those who feel that the yellow color should be perpetuated. Combination 1134 is an extremely golden bee—in fact there is no other visible color in this bee. I must, however, point out again and emphasize the fact that this color is present quite by chance. We have long since passed the days when color as such is of any importance. It might well be that any future pollinating hybrid would not be of this particular color."

(Mr. Doe shaking his head slowly
(Please turn to page 543))



The story of R. E. Newell's wintering is given in the side column.



Novel observation hive on post in the apiary of the Franciscan Fathers, at Lemont, Illinois. Rev. John Ferlin is an ardent beekeeper.



Beekeeper Eaves and Mr. Hall, farmer, compare seed of alfalfa. Left, without bees; right, with bees. Some difference.

This Is How I Winter

It is not the cold that kills a strong colony but too much moisture within the hive. This moisture forms into ice within the hive in zero weather or drips over the bees when it thaws. A good windbreak with upper entrances and a few newspapers spread over the inner cover eliminate the moisture factor. In a dry hive there is no danger of winter injury to a strong colony with sufficient honey and pollen to maintain moderate brood rearing. I have experimented with wintering and have tried practically all types of insulation, with double walled hives, etc. While I have had success with such packing, I have found that the labor involved and the cumbersome condition of such an apiary does not lend itself to orchard rental or moving.

The snapshots were taken during a short warm spell in February. The top picture shows a few colonies back of my garage which were in good condition at that time.

The lower picture shows one of five colonies that were made by uniting two colonies each in the fall. They all wintered well so I believe under strength colonies should be united either in the fall or in the spring to make them fit for the honeyflow.

R. E. Newell, Massachusetts.

Sweet Clover Seed Production Low

On September 14 the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported that this year's indicated production of sweet clover seed, in 11 out of 14 producing states, is expected to be the smallest on record. It is forecast at 31,068,000 pounds of thresher-run seed, compared with 33,612,000 pounds in 1948 and the 1938-47 average of 48,562,800 pounds. The indicated 8 per cent decrease in production from last year is due to small reductions in the 1949 acreage and yield per acre. The prospective declines in production are most marked in Montana, Nebraska and Colorado; largest increases are indicated for Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin.

Imports of sweet clover seed during the year ending June 30, 1949, were 27,332,200 pounds—an all-time high—compared with 12,999,000 pounds during the preceding fiscal year and the 1943-47 average of 7,411,400 pounds.

Current supplies of sweet clover seed, including production this year and carry-over, total 28,066,000 pounds of clean seed. This is 6 per cent less than in 1948 and 18 per cent below the 1943-47 average.

(Taken from the American Seed Trade Association Bulletin of September 30, 1949).

Allergy To Bee Stings

Robert N. Tweedy in the Irish Beekeeper reports the news that more or less serious effects caused to certain people by even one sting may be due to a calcium deficiency in the sufferer. Obviously the remedy is to take doses, under doctor's orders, of calcium in tablet form.

Ed. Stewart of Northwest Missouri whose son has had very serious effects from bee stings, reports that they finally found that apparently it was not so much the bee stings as the inhalation of the bee odor that caused the trouble. Wearing a gas mask whenever around the bees allowed of bee stings without more than ordinary effect. Now the mask is being discarded as apparently the difficulty has adjusted itself.

Howard Shipton

Iowa beekeepers and many of his other friends will be sorry to learn of the death of Howard Shipton on September 25.

Shipton, early in life, kept bees commercially in Wyoming. He came to Iowa in 1922 and in 1924 became a deputy apiary inspector, which position he held until his death. His activities also included the supervision of the demonstration apiary program for the state of Iowa.

His is an example of a lifetime devoted to the service of the beekeeping industry. No better tribute than this could be paid.

Australasian Golden Jubilee

Our compliments to the Australasian Beekeeper on their Golden Jubilee (August 1949) number. This magazine was begun by the late W. S. Pender in 1899. His picture appropriately is on the front cover of the magazine.

Well do we remember a visit from Mr. Pender and his brother on their way to England, the land of their nativity. The Penders have long been foremost in the bee supply and beekeeping field in Australasia and the Pender firm still maintains its prestige in that field. Mr. Pender died in 1932.

Mr. Morris W. Morgan is now the editor of the Australasian Beekeeper. Our compliments to him on this Golden Anniversary number.

Ladino In the Piedmont Section

I live in the Piedmont section of North Carolina where the honeyflow usually is not very good. About three years ago farmers here turned to cattle raising and sowed plenty of Ladino clover. The results are wonderful in honey production. It has improved our honey crops 75 per cent. Before it was used production was seldom over 100 pounds per colony and now it is often 150 or more pounds. It is a fine grade of honey.

Dalice E. Crawford, N. Carolina.

Feeding Cans

At this time of year many beekeepers will be thinking of feeding their bees sugar syrup during the winter and early spring. My husband and I found that empty coffee cans (both 1 and 2-lb. size), corn syrup cans, and shortening cans made excellent containers for the syrup.

We did not, however, make holes in the bottom of the cans; we punched five or six holes along the sides of the can about 1/16 inch from the bottom; then we pulled ordinary string through the holes. This prevented the syrup from coming out too fast, and made the cans easy to place in the hives. The cans may be put directly on the floor and also stacked on top of each other, if desired.

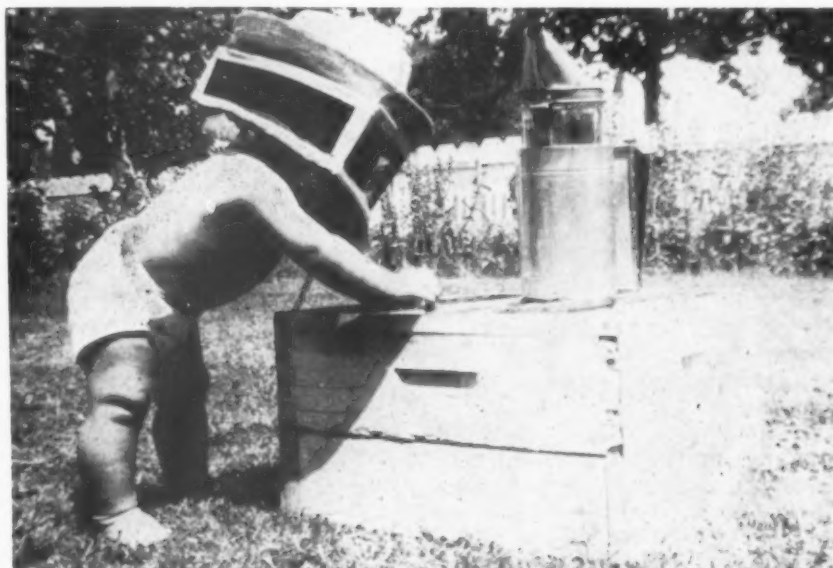
Mrs. Harry McCleary, California.



Lyman Coe (Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, Ardmore, Okla.) sends this study of wood based queen cells. Cells are of good size and should turn out nice, young layers.



Lose Brothers, Louisville, Kentucky, placed this display at the State Fair. This stand sold over \$100 worth of honey a day. Comb honey (section and bulk) are the best sellers.



David Paul Huntoon, son of David Huntoon, Colton, California, proves that one is never too young to commence in the honey business. This young beekeeper was seven months old when the picture was taken (From Woodrow Miller).



The Cover Picture

Ethel L. Coon

Librarian to the Industry

IT is doubtful that any woman in the United States has a better knowledge of the world's beekeeping literature than does Miss Ethel L. Coon. Miss Coon became an employee of the Division of Bee Culture in the early days of the First World War. In 1924 Miss Coon was placed in charge of the library and beekeeping bibliography of the Division. At that time, as is still true today, all the beekeeping books and periodicals in the library of the Department of Agriculture were housed at the headquarters of the Division of Bee Culture.

Before Dr. Phillips resigned his government position to accept the Chair of Apiculture at Cornell University, he had already started an elaborate bibliography on apiculture. This consisted essentially of an author index and a subject index and was world-wide in its scrutiny of the beekeeping literature and the scientific literature relating to beekeeping.

For many years Miss Coon, practically single-handed, continued with that work and built it up to its present size and usefulness. The collection of beekeeping books in the Department of Agriculture may not be the best and largest in the country but can be considered one of the best. The beekeeping bibliography on the other hand is unquestionably the most complete and extensive in this country if not anywhere in the world.

It would be difficult to estimate the importance of this collection of literature to the beekeeping industry. Letters are received by the Division of Bee Culture from all parts of the world and all kinds of persons wanting answers on beekeeping questions. The bibliography is, therefore, in

constant use. It is important also in orienting research work. Before a research problem is undertaken it is essential to make a thorough study of the literature on the subject. The beekeeping bibliography is, therefore, one of the indispensable tools of the Division of Bee Culture and Miss Coon is the person, more than any other who has been responsible for its development and usefulness.

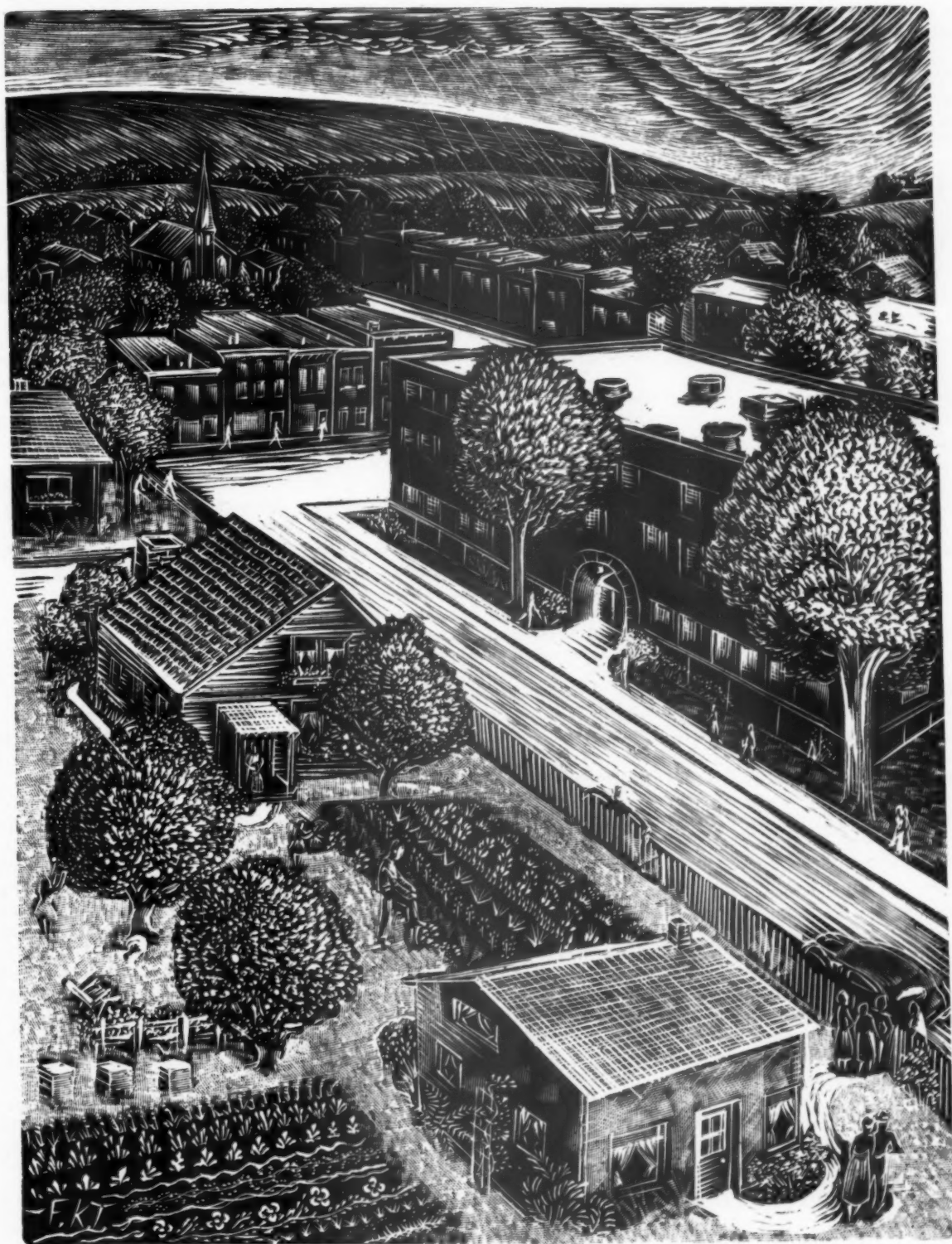
Miss Coon also spent four to six weeks of three different years cataloging book material for the Miller Memorial Library at the University of Wisconsin.

In 1944, Miss Coon was transferred to the main library at the Department of Agriculture. Her new work has to do with a broader field, namely entomological literature of which apiculture is but a part. In her present capacity Miss Coon is still

of great assistance to the Division of Bee Culture in calling attention to important scientific contributions on bee culture as they appear in the world's scientific literature. The latest publication of the Bibliography Section compiled by Miss Coon with Ina L. Hawes, and William H. Mitchell is Index VII to the Literature of American Economic Entomology.

Government employees are often maligned simply because they are government workers and few are praised. When Miss Coon was assigned to library work she took special courses in library science at Columbia University. Like many conscientious government workers Miss Coon has never made the headlines but she has done a splendid job and devoted the best years of her life to the service of apiculture.





Discussion

What contributed most to your success as a beekeeper? A strain of bees? Special manipulation? Special equipment? Location? Here are some practical suggestions on this topic:

J. J. Schrock,

Tennessee

Special or good equipment comes first in contributing to the beekeeper's success. All combs should be drawn from full sheets of foundation, and effort should be made to have all worker brood so that a colony can build up to an unlimited force of worker bees. Drones should be eliminated.

It is a good idea when producing extracted honey to Demaree some brood above the excluder when the major flow begins, keeping empty supers between the excluder and the brood you elevated. In producing comb honey likewise always raise your partly filled super and slip an empty super between. This method discourages swarming and more pounds of honey are produced.

A good strain of bees is very essential especially in producing section comb honey. A good location is always very desirable and profitable at all times. As I see it, the best strain of bees and the very best location will not lead to success unless you have good equipment, at least very good combs.

* * * *

Charles B. Miles,

Iowa

I smiled when I saw that word "Success." A few years ago I would have stuck out my chest and told you in no uncertain terms. But now success—be sure to notice that small "s." However, I think success in any business comes with trying to be thorough in what you do. Do the right thing at the right time. It doesn't pay to let things slip by as easily as possible.

For instance, I like my hives, supers, covers and bottoms to be well painted, and I spend considerable time doing that. If I let them go unpainted like so many beekeepers do, I could run more colonies in the time I spend repairing and cleaning up my equipment. The little Michigan bee paper (The Beekeepers Magazine) has a slogan I like: "Not how many you run, but how well

you run them." That is not meant as criticism of others, but it is one of the big points in running a bee business.

I discount the point "strain of bees" as I have bought queens from here and there. True, some were better than others, or some were worse than others, but I usually managed to get a crop from them.

Location means a lot. You can't produce a honey crop in a locality where there is no bee pasture. We used to have one of the best sweet clover localities anywhere when the government was paying the farmers a bonus not to raise grain. Now it is a different matter and we are producing about a third of those crops. So location is about at the top of the list.

I don't believe in a "run themselves" basis of handling bees. Unless you keep a close eye on your apiary in the spring, you will lose swarms just at the time when bees are worth their weight in gold. Colonies will become queenless through swarming and not amount to a whoop all season. Then too a good colony may starve to death a few days before a good honeyflow begins because of neglect. A watchful eye is always needed to find disease. So careful manipulation is indeed important.

* * * *

Julius Lysne,

Wisconsin

The kind of bees that are in our hives is more important than the kind of hives we use or our method of management. A good strain of bees that are gentle and good producers is the important factor. Modern hives are a great convenience but cannot assure a honey crop if the bees are not good producers.

When beginning with bees a good strain of Italians are a great advantage. Gentle bees enable the beginner to manipulate his bees with few stings and a good producing strain will give the beginner real encouragement.

Next in importance is a careful

study of bees and nectar producing plants. Study begins with our first colony of bees and ends when we pass on, for we can never learn it all but we can't resist trying.

After we have our honey we must learn to market it with a profit. No matter what method of selling we try we must know our product and be able to tell people about it in a convincing way. Many people will tell you they do not care for honey—it is our job to get them started using it. A free sample will often do this. One good pound of honey leads to another.

Last we must learn to obey the laws of our state on bees and cooperate fully with our bee inspector. He is truly a good friend, especially to the beginner. His knowledge of bees can be a big help.

* * * *

As this addition to the September discussion on improving our bee pasture arrived too late for publication that month, we are adding it to this month's page:

* * * *

E. E. Salge,

Texas

Once the beekeeper can help to get the planting of legumes started in his territory, the program will become perpetual, simply because crops following legumes will show a marked increase in yields in most instances. More farmers will plant legumes which will mean added pasture for the beekeeper. A recent incident plainly shows proof of this.

A farmer in central north Texas had had bees on his clover for a year's previous crop and obtained very good seed yields while his neighbor a few miles distant had a small seed yield. The "good" farmer advised his neighbor to get some bees for his clover the next season and with much skepticism this farmer did get some bees placed in his clover. When harvest time came this skeptical farmer wanted the neighbor to combine the clover. He agreed to combine it for \$6.00 per acre but the neighbor stood pat on his offer of

Next Discussion

For our December discussion: SHALL WE CONTINUE THESE DISCUSSIONS NEXT YEAR? IF SO, WHAT SUBJECTS WOULD YOU SUGGEST? This page offers a chance for you to express yourself and find out the other fellow's opinion on those ever-present beekeeping problems. We want to know if you would like this page to continue. Drop us a card with your favorite subject for discussion now. If you are a beginner, what are the problems you are up against? A discussion of them will help you. Please be specific in the subjects you choose as too general a topic does not make as good a discussion.

FOR OUR 1950 COVERS

Something new
will be added!

The American Bee Journal announces a new
COVER CONTEST beginning January, 1950.

Here's a chance for every beekeeper who owns a camera (and most of us do) to see his work on the cover of ABJ sometime during the coming year. Beekeeping offers a rich field for the photographer—how many times while examining your colonies or watching your bees have you said, "Wish I had a picture of that!" Next time you visit your bee yard, take your camera along. You don't need to be a professional photographer and you may be surprised by the results. Or if you have already taken some good shots, dig them out of that drawer or album and send them in. Any pictures pertaining to bees, beekeeping, honey plants, locations, methods, honey, wax, etc. will be eligible.

Each month, **two pictures** will be chosen for the awards—one for the cover, and one for the full page picture inside the Journal. Send yours to us as soon as possible, and if you can, send along a picture of yourself and something about the circumstances under which the picture was taken. Don't wait from month to month to send in your entry—we would like to have it right away.

The prizes will be \$10.00 for the cover picture and \$5.00 for the inside page.

HERE ARE THE RULES—

1. Not more than two photographs by the same person will be used.
2. Photographs will become the property of the American Bee Journal and cannot be returned. Any pictures we use on other pages of the Journal will be paid for at regular rates.
3. Awards will be made following publication of the winning pictures.

Send your pictures to Cover Contest
Editor, American Bee Journal,
Hamilton, Illinois

one-third of the seed, figuring that this would be a fair price considering his past yields. After considerable bargaining the farmer agreed to combine it for one-third of the seed. When all was said and done the farmer received \$290.00 worth of seed for combining the ten-acre field, rather than \$60.00 which he would have gotten if the neighbor had agreed to pay \$6.00 an acre. The amusing part is that the farmer with the combine knew all along that he would make considerable more at one-third of the seed than \$6.00 an acre but he "dickered" with his neighbor some time to really drive home the value of bees in seed production. For many a day this farmer could not realize that bees could increase seed yields so much. Needless to say this farmer is going to have bees for his clover from this day on and will really spread the value of bees for legume seed production. And this will all add up to more and bigger seed yields, with more acreage being put into legumes and lastly more pasture for the beekeeper.

MARSHFIELD MANUFACTURING CO., Inc.

End of Season Sale

We are closing out our **number two** grade honey sections and suggest that you write for our "Close Out" prices on these sections.

IT WILL PAY YOU—to inquire about these 4¼x4¼x1¾ beeway sections **NOW**. They are available in regular and split, packed 500 to the carton. We guarantee our quality and workmanship, on these as well as other articles we manufacture.

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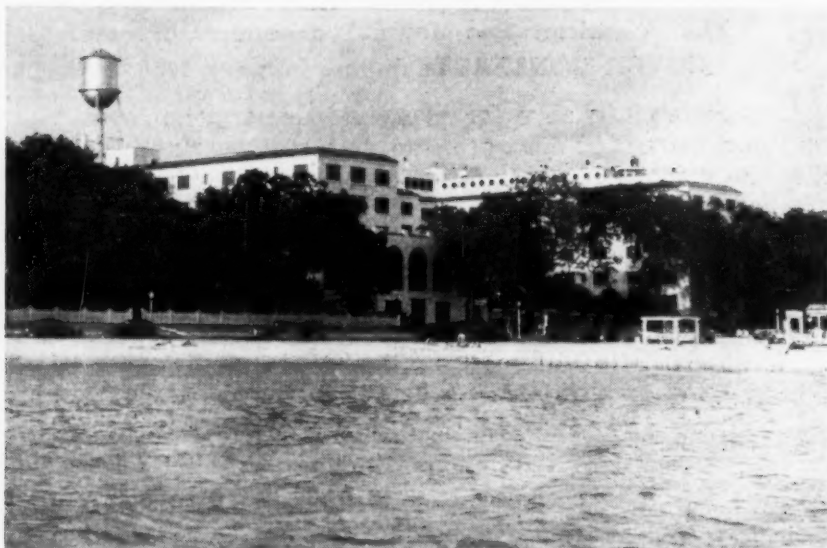
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Beekeeper's

Supplies

Previews of Coming Events



Buena Vista Hotel on the Gulf of Mexico, Biloxi, Mississippi

Annual Federation Meeting. Biloxi, Mississippi, January 15-19

The next annual meeting of the American Beekeeping Federation will be held during the week of January 15, 1950 at the Buena Vista Hotel on the Gulf of Mexico at Biloxi, Miss.

The program for this meeting is being prepared and will give special attention to problems that are common to all beekeepers and to the entire industry. Committees and allied groups will meet on the afternoon of January 16 and the forenoon of January 17. Regular sessions will start at noon Tuesday the 17th and continue to noon of January 19. On

the evening of the 17th will be the banquet of the Ladies Auxiliary with an interesting program and the gentlemen will be invited to attend and partake of both food and entertainment.

The annual banquet of the Federation will be on the evening of January 18 with Harold J. Clay of Washington, D. C., as Toastmaster and having charge of the program for the evening.

Fun, fellowship and food for thought. You'll get them all at the Biloxi meeting in mid-January.

See the December issue for the complete program.

South Dakota, Pierre, November 5

The South Dakota Beekeepers' Association will meet at Pierre for a one-day session, November 5th.

Frank A. Grace, Sec'y-Treas.,
S. D. Beekeepers' Assn.

Illinois-Springfield, November 11-12

The annual convention of the Illinois Association will be in the St. Nicholas Hotel, Springfield, November 11 and 12. Besides the usual reports and business meeting, there will be an interesting program to include talks by Inspector Killion, Professor Milum, President Cale, Roy Grout, H. H. Root, John P. Stout, Phyllis Huffman, and Art Kehl. It is a two day convention so come prepared to stay.

Empire State (N. Y.) Syracuse, November 11-12

The Empire State Honey Producers' Association will hold its annual meeting Friday and Saturday, November 11th and 12th, 1949, in the Syracuse Hotel, Syracuse, New York.
E. T. Cary, Sec'y-Treas.

Nebraska-Lincoln—Nov. 15

The annual meeting of the Nebraska Honey Producers Association will be on Tuesday, November 15, in 207 Plant Industry Building, Lincoln. Forenoon—Reports; afternoon—Committee reports (Public Relations; Research; Pollination). The Queen Rearing and Package Bee Industry, Howard Scott. Business meeting; election. Evening—Banquet

and entertainment. Selling Out or Out Selling.

Gordon Crump.

Indiana—Indianapolis, Nov. 12.

The Forty-first Annual Convention of the Indiana State Beekeepers' Association will be held on Saturday, November 12th, in the Indiana State War Memorial building, 431 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, Ind.

W. R. Bielfield, Sec'y-Treas.

Arkansas—Greater Little Rock— November 14-15

The annual meeting of the Arkansas Association will be in Greater Little Rock, November 14-15.

Alberta—Edmonton—Nov. 14-15

The Alberta Beekeepers' Association's Sixteenth Annual Convention will be held in the Masonic Temple at Edmonton, Alberta, November 14th and 15th followed by the Annual Meeting of the Alberta Honey Producers' Co-Operative Limited on the 16th.

Manitoba—Winnipeg—Nov. 17-18

The forty-third annual convention of the Manitoba Beekeepers' Association will be held at the Marlborough Hotel, Winnipeg, Manitoba, November 17th and 18th, 1949. The annual meeting of the Canadian Beekeepers' Council will be held in the same hotel beginning November 21st.

E. C. Martin, Sec'y-Treas.

Iowa—Ames—Nov. 17

The annual meeting of the Iowa Beekeepers Association will be held at Ames on November 17th and 18th, as the affiliated organization of the Iowa State Horticulture Society. The program this year will feature special topics, each half day session. In the Thursday forenoon session the innovation in program making is being tried. Possible topics for presentation are listed. The speakers will be volunteers from the audience who feel they have something new to present on any of the topics. Presen-

tation will be brief to permit plenty of discussion. The completed program will be available for distribution shortly after November 1. Anyone who is interested may apply for a copy of the program.

F. B. Paddock, Extension Apiarist.

Joint Meeting

A. B. B. A.—Southern States Federation, Montgomery, Ala., Nov. 17-18

The American Bee Breeders Association and the Southern States Beekeeper's Federation will hold a joint meeting at the Whitley Hotel in Montgomery, Ala., Nov. 17 and 18. The Southern Federation program on the first day will include speeches by Dr. Warren Whitcomb, Mrs. Grace, Raymond Fischer, Harold Clay, F. E. Guyton, Walter T. Kelley, D. V. Marshall, and M. J. Deyell. Among others on the program for A. B. B. A. the second day will be E. C. Bessonnet—"Beekeeping Legislation," L. A. Barnette—"Report on Honey Production Tests," and M. G. Dadant—"Future of Beekeeping."

Westchester County (N. Y.) New Rochelle—Nov. 20

The Westchester County Beekeeper's Association will hold its regular monthly meeting at 2:30 P. M. on Sunday, November 20, 1949, at the Odd Fellows Hall, 20 Lockwood Avenue, New Rochelle, N. Y.

A guest speaker is expected to attend, and movies will be shown following his talk. Refreshments will be served. Visitors are always welcome.

B. F. Miller, Publicity.

Montana—Bozeman—Dec. 2-3

The Montana State Beekeepers Association will hold its annual meeting, Dec. 2 and 3 at the Baxter Hotel, Bozeman, Montana. Banquet evening of Dec. 2. A fine program is being arranged. Meeting begins at 10 A. M. Mrs. O. R. Burdett, Sec'y.

California—Fresno—Dec. 6-8

Mr. S. J. Watkins, President of the California State Beekeepers Association, announces the 60th Annual convention of the California Beekeepers.

The meeting will be held December 6-7-8 in Fresno, the Geographical center of the Golden State. The convention headquarters will be Hotel



Leslie H. Little, New State Apiarist, Tennessee.

On the resignation of John M. Amos, Leslie H. Little, a successful beekeeper with twenty-six years' experience, takes up the work of the Division of Agriculture for Tennessee. Formerly vice-president of the American Bee Breeders' Association, he has a wide acquaintance with beekeepers throughout the state.

Fresno. Make your reservations early and plan on a big meeting and a good time.

The theme of the convention will center around two important fields; pollination problems, and the marketing of honey.

A new feature will be instigated at this 60th annual convention when the first evening will be designated as University Night. The program will include discussions of apicultural research and beekeeping problems lead by the staff of the University of California.

The second day will be devoted to marketing problems, including discussions on the A. H. I., the American Beekeeping Federation, advertising, promotion, packing, merchandising, and honey co-ops.

The Annual Beekeepers Banquet will be held the second evening of the convention. Excellent menu and entertainment is being planned.

The last day of the convention will be taken up by reports of the Legislative Committee on price support and happenings in Washington. A very important business meeting will close the convention.

M. C. West, Asst. Secretary.

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Bred for color, honey production and quietness.

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Italian Package Bees &

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ALSO UNSHELLED PECANS

Extra large fancy, top quality Stewart or Success 45c lb. 10% cash discount on 25 lbs. or more.

Prices quoted are delivered and satisfaction guaranteed.

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"Everything you need to package your honey"

GLASS HONEY JARS

8 oz.	24 per case	\$.74 per case
1-lb.	24 per case	.93 per case
1½ lb. (Pt.)	12 per case	.60 per case
2-lb.	12 per case	.65 per case
3-lb. (Qt.)	12 per case	.75 per case
5-lb.	6 per case	.52 per case
2½ per Square	12 per case	1.20 per case
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Queens

1-25	2-lb.	3-lb.	4-lb.
25 up	\$3.50	\$4.50	\$5.25
	3.00	4.00	4.75

The Rich Honey Farms
JEANERETTE, LOUISIANA

ITALIAN BEES AND QUEENS

E. J. Bordelon Apiaries
MOREAUVILLE, LA. BOX 33

HONEY LABELS . . . *that sell honey*

A catalog with many individual labels, in single designs; or with series of labels carrying the same design; labels for all sizes of glass and tin. Single color and multi-color. Each label in the catalog is just the size and in every way exactly like the one

you may choose. Each label can be placed on your container so you can judge for yourself whether or not it suits you. You will find the wording designed to do a good selling job and the colors blended to attract the customer's eye.



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It will cost you nothing but the penny postal.

AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL
HAMILTON, ILLINOIS

1949 FALL PRICE LIST

**Cans - Jars - Servers - Wrappers - Shipping
Cases - Cartons - Extracting Equipment**

**Extractors, Melters, Knives, Tanks, Gas Plant, Gates, Power
Uncappers, Acid Equipment, Bee Escapes, Scales, Bolting Cloth**



SEND FOR YOUR COMPLETE COPY OF OUR FALL PRICE LIST



DADANT & SONS, Inc.
HAMILTON, ILLINOIS

Classified Advertisements

BEES AND QUEENS

THREE BANDED ITALIAN bees and queens for 1950. Write for prices. Alamance Bee Company, Graham, North Carolina.

REASONABLE—1,000 lb. package bees with queens—2-lb., 1-20, \$3.00; 21-up, \$2.75; 3-lb., 1-20, \$3.75; 21-up, \$3.50. April 1st delivery. Write Lloyd Apiaries, Rt. 2, Box 89, Mobile, Alabama.

THREE-BANDED ITALIAN BEES and Queens for 1950. Queens, \$1.10 each. Packages with queens, 2-lb., \$3.50; 3-lb., \$4.50. Write for quantity discount and descriptive circular. Cottage Hill Apiaries, Rt. 2, Mobile, Alabama.

PACKAGE BEES headed by Mountain Gray Caucasians or leather colored Italian queens. March 20 delivery. Write for prices. Twin Bee Co-op., 3616 Caucasian Circle, Tampa, Florida.

BREWER'S LINE BRED Caucasian queens, 1-99, \$1.00; 100 and up, 75c. Member ABBA. Brewer Brothers Apiaries, 3616 Caucasian Circle, Tampa 9, Florida.

BRIGHT YELLOW and three band queens. Graydon Bros., Rt. 2, Greenville, Ala.

FOR SALE

400 2-STORY COLONIES with ample stores and 1,000 full depth supers. Also 800 extra full depth supers. All ten-frame, mostly near new equipment in good condition. No disease or junk. Root Brothers, Randolph, Nebraska.

PACKAGE BEE AND QUEEN BUSINESS for sale. Located in South Georgia. 400 colonies, 500 queen nucs. Requeened and state inspected. No disease. Health certificate. This is not a sacrifice outfit but an established package business. Cash. Write R. B. Herier, 1574 Fulton Ave., Springfield, Ohio.

500 OR MORE COLONIES fully equipped. One dollar each, balance less than rent. Good equipment. Good producing locations. L. D. Taylor, Harlan, Iowa.

BARGAIN ON EQUIPMENT for 100 colonies of bees. Write for information. Lewis Lawrence, Luverne, North Dakota.

50 or more 2 1/2 story 8-frame colonies. Inspected. For price write H. Mathison, 1834 So. Ogden, Denver, Colo.

FOR SALE—200 supers for 4 1/4 x 4 1/4 x 1 1/8 beeway sections. 200 section holders for 1 1/2 sections. 200 section holders for 1 1/2 sections. 75 shallow supers, 5 3/4 frames. Pop corn, South American yellow, in bulk. Richard K. Evans, Hoopeston, Illinois, Rt. 1.

IN FLORIDA 600 1 1/2-story colonies, \$10.00 each. Cypress hives, combs in good condition, all young queens. With six frames of brood or more, and ready for production. No disease or junk. Extra equipment below cost. Box 160, care American Bee Journal.

HONEY and BEESWAX WANTED

WANTED—Light clover honey. Send sample and price with first letter. Duax, Ashkum, Illinois.

WANTED—Comb honey and extracted honey, large or small amounts. Send price list and samples. R. A. Raley, Box 2263, Daytona Beach, Florida.

WANTED—All grades comb and extracted honey, large or small amounts. Quote price in first letter. Mail sample. King Honey Co., 326 Bales St., Kansas City, Mo.

Copy for this department must reach us not later than the tenth of each month preceding date of issue. If intended for classified department it should be so stated when advertisement is sent.

Rate of Classified advertising—13 cents for each word, letter, figure or initial, including the name and address. Minimum ad, ten words.

As a measure of precaution to our readers we require reference of all new advertisers. To save time, please send the name of your bank and other references with your copy.

Advertisers offering used equipment or bees on comb must guarantee them free from disease or certificate of inspection from authorized inspector. The conditions should be stated to insure that buyer is fully informed.

HONEY AND WAX WANTED. Mail sample. Advise quantity. Bryant & Sawyer, 2425 Hunter St., Los Angeles, Calif.

WANTED—Honey and wax—any quantity. Send samples and prices. Alexander Company, 819 Reynolds Road, Toledo 7, Ohio.

HONEY FOR SALE

FOR SALE—35 60-lb. cans of light amber honey, \$6.00 per can F. O. B. truck Putnam. Walter I. Wright, Putnam, Ill.

200 60-lb. cans sweet clover honey at \$5.00. Get it yourself. Pershing Gulden, Enderlin, North Dakota.

WANTED—Extracted honey, white or light amber, in 60's. State price in first letter. Ed. Heldt, 1004 W. Washington St., Bloomington, Illinois.

HONEY WANTED—All grades and varieties. Highest cash prices paid. Mail samples. State quantity. HAMILTON & COMPANY, 1360 Produce Street, Los Angeles, California.

MINNESOTA'S finest pure, white, mild, clover honey. 5-pound pail, \$1.50 postpaid. Sixty-pound can, \$7.50 F.O.B.; 10 or more cans \$7.20 each. Liquefied and strained. Robert E. Denny, Roseau, Minnesota.

MICHIGAN finest clover and amber honey in sixties. Arthur Thayer & Sons, 2122 Ames, Saginaw, Michigan.

A VERY FINE QUALITY basswood honey in new cans, at 12c per lb. Sample 25c. Hesselung Honey Farm, Potosi, Wisconsin.

250 cans clover and clover-basswood extracted honey. Crawford Smith, Clayville, New York.

CLOVER HONEY in new 60-lb. cans, 12c. Order from ad. Ohmert Bee Farms, Dubuque, Iowa.

NEW CROP CLOVER HONEY, white, extra good flavor, 15c per lb. in 60's. Lose Brothers, 206 E. Jefferson, Louisville, Ky.

FLORIDA WHITE TUPELO, the world's finest honey—pure orange blossom honey—white clover, and buckwheat honey shipped in barrels, 60-pound tins, gallon cans, or in glass by the case. Pure maple syrup. Alexander Company, 819 Reynolds Road, Toledo Ohio.

NEW CROP OF HONEY shipped daily from producer in Florida. Pure orange blossom, 5-lb. pail \$2.25. Pure Florida cut comb honey, 5-lb. pail \$2.75. No C.O.D. orders; all shipments prepaid. E. R. Raley, Box 1610, Daytona Beach, Florida.

CARLOAD LOTS new crop, top quality, light color, clover and basswood honey packed in new sixty pound cans. Johnson's Bee Farms, Callaway, Minnesota.

POSITIONS AND HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED—State bee and truck experience, age, weight, height, wages expected. Stewart Apiaries, Fairfax, Mo.

WANTED

TEXAS BEES WANTED—Describe equipment. State price. Box EST, care American Bee Journal.

WANTED—Used 10-frame bee equipment. State age, condition, source, price, dove-tailed. Ed Stewart, Fairfax, Mo.

SUPPLIES

HONEYFLOW BEE FEEDER—all metal, like a frame, fits any hive. Holds generous supply of syrup, float for bees. Write for name of dealer. \$2.50 each. W. O. Goebel, Knoxville, Iowa.

OUR FREE BEE SUPPLY CATALOGUE. Lists double boilers, special motors, blowers, etc., not listed by others. We manufacture bee hives, wired and plain foundation, tanks and extractors, etc. Quick delivery from stock. Walter Kelley Co., Paducah, Kentucky.

YOUR WAX WORKED into quality medium brood foundation for 25c pound; 100 pounds \$19.00. Fred Peterson, Alden, Iowa.

CLEAN UP AFB with sulfa. 25 tablets 50c; 50, \$1.00; 100, \$1.50; 1,000, \$6.00. Free Circular, quick shipment. WALTER T. KELLEY CO., PADUCAH, KENTUCKY.

BEE SUPPLIES—Lewis Woodenware—Dadant's Foundation. Send for catalog. Simeon Belier, Intercourse, Pennsylvania.

FOR SALE—25,000 mill run Lewis sections 3 3/4 x 5 1/4 scalloped 4 sides 1/2 inch at \$14.00 per thousand, f.o.b. Hamilton, Ill. Dadant & Sons, Hamilton, Illinois.

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE. Quality bee supplies at factory prices. Prompt shipment. Satisfaction guaranteed. The Hubbard Apiaries, Manufacturers of Beekeepers' Supplies, Onsted, Michigan.

HIVE BODIES, covers and bottom boards bee shipping cages and nuclei hives. All supplies new and knocked down. Price list furnished on request. A & B Supply Company, Coffee Springs, Alabama.

THE ONLY COMB FOUNDATION PLANT in the East. We sell foundation, work your wax, render combs and cappings. Twenty-nine years' experience. Robinson's Wax Works, Rt. No. 2, Auburn, N. Y.

SEEDS AND TREES

TRY WAGNER PEA, long lived, heavy producing forage and honey plant. See page 472, October American Bee Journal. Seed, 1/4 pound, \$1.00; pound, \$2.50; five pounds, \$10.00. Postpaid. Melvin Pellett, Atlantic, Iowa.

STUDY YOUR CONDITIONS—plan for better BEE PASTURE. Free circular "SEEDS OF HONEY PLANTS." Melvin Pellett, Atlantic, Iowa.

PERMANENT PERENNIALS, TREES, SHRUBS for your bee pasture can now be planted this fall. Illustrated folder free. Nicollet County Nursery, St. Peter, Minnesota.

HONEY LABELS

Improved designs, embodying color, balance, simplicity, and distinction. Please send for free samples & prices.

C. W. AEPPLER COMPANY
Oconomowoc, Wisconsin

MISCELLANEOUS

PECANS direct from grower. Selected Stewarts, five pounds \$2.50; ten pounds, \$4.50, prepaid. Virgil Keith, Foley, Ala.

KNOW interesting facts concerning the bees of India through the **INDIAN BEE JOURNAL**, published in English, by the Phupen Apiaries (Himalayas), Ramgarh, Dist. Nainital, U. P., India and obtainable from them. Subs. Rs 7/- or 10 Shillings or 2.25 Dollars per annum. Single copy Rs 1/4/-s. 1/9 or 49 cents (international money order). Payment in mint postage stamps of your country accepted.

RANCH MAGAZINE—Do you find it difficult to secure information about sheep and sheep ranching methods? The **SHEEP AND GOAT RAISER** reaches more sheepmen with more information or range sheep than any magazine published. Subscription \$1.00 Hotel Cactus, San Angelo, Texas.

THE BEE WORLD—The leading bee journal in Great Britain and the only international bee review in existence. Specializes in the world's news in both science and practice of apiculture. Specimen copy, post free, 12 cents, stamps. Membership of the Club including subscription to the paper 10/6. The Apis Club, The Way's End, Foxton, England.

A LIVING FROM BEES by Frank C. Pellett. His new 1946 book for all beekeepers. Combining results of many years' experience with latest developments and improvements in beekeeping. A complete guide. 310 pages. Cloth. \$2.50

DAIRY GOAT

CASH from your spare time. Raise dairy goats! Magazine tells how. Send for **FREE** copy. Dairy Goat Journal, Columbia 2A, Missouri.

Italian Bees and Queens

FOR 1950

We plan to offer the best Bees and Queens at the lowest possible price. Write for details.

A. M. PEACH
BALDWIN, MISSISSIPPI

BEE BOOKS

A choice list of fine books by selected authors. Material that any beekeeper can read to a profit.

Write for a complete list of out of print or second-hand bee books and bulletins.

American Bee Journal
HAMILTON, ILLINOIS

HONEY WANTED

Carloads and less than carloads. Mail sample and best prices in all grades.

C. W. AEPPLER COMPANY
Oconomowoc, Wisconsin

It May Be Wrong!

(Continued from page 519)

lumber is used moisture will condense on it and drop on the quilt. I tried using two or three inner covers sealed together with melted wax but moisture condensed on the one over the bees the same as if a single inner cover were used. I use covers that are five inches deep with $\frac{3}{4}$ inch cleats nailed all around the inside of the cover $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches from the bottom, and with thin strips of box lumber spaced three or four inches apart nailed to the upper side of the cleats. Ten or twelve thicknesses of newspaper are placed over the strips, then a burlap sack, then ten or twelve more thicknesses of newspaper with all corners, ends and sides made tight. All this is built into the cover I use. When I prepare my bees for winter I take off the inner cover, and in its place use a quilt made of four thicknesses of newspapers placed between two pieces of burlap cut about three inches larger than the hive and tacked together with twine so that it can be handled on windy days. One-half inch strips are placed crosswise of the frames under the quilt so bees will have a passageway over the top of the frames. When the cover is placed on the hive I have an air tight quilt over the bees with a dead air space above the quilt and no moisture.

Those who do research work tell us that *Nosema* develops at a temperature below that of normal brood (86 to 95°). What better conditions could we have for the development of *Nosema* than exist when we let the warm air generated by the bees escape from the hive through the top entrance? I wonder if we were bothered with *Nosema* before we began to let the warm air escape via the top entrance.

Missouri.

Dr. Carlton E. Burnside

It is with deep regret that we announce the sudden and untimely death of Dr. Carlton E. Burnside. Several weeks ago Dr. Burnside suffered a slight heart attack which culminated in his death, October 12, 1949, at Laramie, Wyoming.

Dr. Burnside, who is well known throughout the world of beekeeping,

has been a member of the staff of the Division of Bee Culture, U.S.D.A. since 1924. He is particularly well known because of his contributions in the field of bee diseases.

Dr. Burnside was born June 27, 1897 in Branch County, Michigan. He is survived by his wife and three children, two daughters and a son.

Jas. I. Hambleton,
Division of Bee Culture.

Beware of Moisture

W. A. Goodacre, chief of Apiary Division (New Zealand) writes in the *Agricultural Gazette* of the necessity of guarding against moist and unhealthy conditions for bees, particularly in the fall, when late flows from spotted gum may not be sufficiently ripened to make a good winter food. Damp weather, damp or thin honey and damp pollen, all may have the same effect of inducing dysentery particularly when cleansing flights are delayed.

This is equally true, spring or fall.

The same thing applies as well here in America, and likely the world over. A sunny location, good drainage and good food are deterrents to dysentery and excessive loss of adult bees.

Early Experiences of a Beginner

(Continued from page 516)

up—bad weather. It rained for several days, knocking all the blossoms off the tulip trees and thereby ruining the main honey flow. Besides this, the queen of the colony was suddenly superseded, for some reason that I have never discovered to this day. This ruined practically all chances for a surplus this year, unless the goldenrod was abundant enough for a fall flow. It wasn't. Total surplus for 1948 from five colonies: 10 lbs. of comb honey (mostly goldenrod). That gave me a two pound per colony average, although all ten pounds came from my original colony.

At this writing I again have great hopes for the coming season. I do not expect to start any new colonies save replacing one that got so weak that I united it with another. Therefore I can do nothing but wait, and hope that I will have better luck next year.

Maryland.

American Honey Institute

At Thanksgiving, American beekeepers don't have to search very hard to find their blessings. They know, however, that these blessings must be counted if they are to be kept.

Thanksgiving time gives beekeepers a chance to sit down a minute and contemplate the ways of the world—their beekeeping world. With a fair analysis and an accurate comparison the beekeeper's lot looks pretty good!

We at the Institute have a file full of letters that proves, to us at any rate, that the American Honey producers live under a lucky star!

To quote verbatim:

From England

"We should like very much to have a copy of OLD FAVORITES. Even if your recipes contain too many 'York hams' and are rather lavish with butter, eggs, etc., we will not be able to make the dishes, but they would be nice to read about and save for better times.

"Incidentally this year has been quite good for the honey yield and in my county the average has been about 50 pounds per hive. To you this may seem very small, but to us it is reasonable. Last year it was about 15 pounds per hive and in many places none at all."

(Lucky Star No. 1—American beekeepers can peek into their supers loaded with honey and be thankful. And the next time the beekeeper's wife takes out her OLD FAVORITE book, she can be glad she has the eggs, butter, and honey to go with the recipes.)

From Tel Aviv, Israel

"We are now endeavoring to develop to the greatest possible extent beekeeping in the young state of Israel and to promote the local consumption of honey as well as its export.

"We know that you have done a lot to this effect in the U. S. A. and we feel sure that any material received from your Institute will be of most valuable assistance here."

(Lucky Star No. 2—Beekeeping in America already has a good, energetic start. John Q. Public knows about honey and can easily be talked

Commercial State Bank Building, Madison 3, Wisconsin

into using it. No, we don't have to start from scratch).

From Canada

"We are facing a different problem of disposing of our honey crop in Canada and we have come to the conclusion that the only way left for our surplus crop is to go into manufacturing honey wines . . . Here in Canada we have over twenty million pounds of honey unsold . . . we do not know what to do with it."

And Again from Canada

"We are faced with a serious problem here of over-production since the conclusion of the war. According to the latest reports, there will be a surplus of approximately 20 million pounds in Canada. The logical way to dispose of this honey is by educational advertising, but the beekeepers will not contribute enough support for a proper advertising campaign."

(Lucky Star No. 3—The school lunch purchases plus American Honey Institute school lunch quantity recipes, have helped diminish the surplus supply of honey here in the United States. American beekeepers can start with a comparatively clean slate this year. It is good to note also that beekeepers give the American Honey Institute excellent support for its nation-wide advertising campaign.)

From England

"As a commercial honey farmer in this country I am naturally interested in popularizing the use of honey in cookery. It seems to me that there are possibilities in the commercial production of honey cakes of all kinds. For this reason I am interested in obtaining as many cake recipes as possible. The literature on this subject in England is very scarce . . . You have two books, OLD FAVORITE and NEW FAVORITE HONEY RECIPES which I am very interested in . . . I am not sure whether I can send you money on account of the dollar shortage in this country."

(Lucky Star No. 4—The American Honey Institute is right at your back door!)

From Ireland

"I have been a regular reader of your notes in the American Bee Journal . . . I often wish that we had some organization here like your Institute to boost honey sales . . . For some time I have been trying to popularize the use of honey in my locality and I wish I had some of your excellent leaflets for this work. Recently I had the very good fortune to get a present of \$3.00 so now I can get some leaflets I have wanted a long time. Despite the devaluing of the pound sterling I still think your advertising material is well worth the money."

(Lucky Star No. 5—American beekeepers can get their literature from the American Honey Institute at cost. The precious dollar and the devalued pound in Britain, on the other hand, make the cost of our leaflets more expensive for Britishers.)

And from America

"Enclosed is our check to help you with your good work. This is not really a gift, but an investment in the future of honey!"

(Lucky Star No. 6—Praised be the American beekeeper who is epitomized by these words. Through their combined efforts honey promotional work is done by the Institute that could never be done single handed.)

This group of lucky stars twinkling down on the American beekeeper cannot be taken for granted. They must be polished up; they must be appreciated. And they are.

Honey Pumpkin Pie

- 2 cups stewed pumpkin
- 2 cups rich milk
- 1 cup honey
- 2 eggs
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon ginger

Mix ingredients in order given. Beat well. Pour into pastry-lined pie pan. Bake in moderate oven (350°F.) one hour.

For variation, replace water with orange juice in pastry recipe.

For a festive note, add pastry turkey or pumpkin designs. Roll pastry thin. Cut out, using cardboard or metal pattern. Bake on cooky sheet, when done, place on top of pie.

GOOD MONEY IN WEAVING

Earn money at home weaving rugs, carpets, etc. from old rags or new yarn—in your community! No experience necessary. \$1,000 doing it with easy running. *Union Looms* costing less than \$50.00! Send for our free booklet today. UNION LOOM WORKS, 33 Factory St., BOONVILLE, N. Y.

—HONEY WANTED—

CARLOADS AND LESS THAN CARLOADS
Send samples and quote best cash price delivered to us. All grades.

HONEY SALES COMPANY

1806-08 No. Washington Ave.,
Minneapolis 11, Minnesota

READY NOW

Fine, young, newly mated Italian Queens. Don't let your colonies drift. Keep the bee population up.

OVERBEY APIARIES

BUNKIE, LOUISIANA

American Rabbit Journal Shows the Way to Success

Gives the latest news and views of the rabbit world—an illustrated monthly magazine of general and educational features. 1 year, \$1.00; 3 years, \$2.00; sample 15c.

American Rabbit Journal

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CAUCASIAN

QUEENS \$75.00 per hundred

D. T. WINSLETT

1015 Sonoma Ave.,
North Sacramento, California

BEES — QUEENS

Regular Italians and

Three-Way Hybrids

The Honey Producing Kinds

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406 MILLER ST., HATTIESBURG, MISS.

ROOT BEE SUPPLIES

Comb and Cut Comb Packages
Honey Containers in all sizes.
Prompt Service.

Michigan Bee & Farm Supply
BOX 7, LANSING 1, MICHIGAN
Successor to M. J. Beck Co.

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Thousands of Rabbits
and other Small Stock.
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Bring you the Monthly News of Rabbit,
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sample copy by return mail.
See What You Buy

The Beekeepers Magazine

LANSING 15-B, MICHIGAN
(Serving honey producers since 1930)

Renew Your Subscription

Getting Ready For 1950

Quality and Price is RIGHT at

The Stover Apiaries

Mayhew, Mississippi



PACKAGE BEES—

ITALIAN QUEENS

For 1950

GEO. A. HUMMER & SONS,

Established 1892

Prairie Point, Miss.

It's not too early to start to think about requeening.

Remember that the way to insure acceptance of the queen is through the use of the Ashurst Sureway Queen Introducing and Mating Cage. Check those who have already used this cage and find out for yourselves why they will now use no other method for introducing.

SUPERIOR HONEY COMPANY

LOS ANGELES and MADERA, CALIFORNIA
OGDEN, UTAH DENVER, COLORADO PHOENIX, ARIZONA

SUNKIST ITALIANS

GUARANTEED LIVE DELIVERY.
—SATISFACTION.

MARCH ORDERS A SPECIALTY

Prices for Spring 1950:

	2-lb.	3-lb.	4-lb.	Queens
1-10	\$3.75	\$4.75	\$5.75	\$1.00
10-25	3.50	4.50	5.50	.95
25-up	3.25	4.25	5.25	.90

Sunkist Bee Company
CONVENT, LOUISIANA

QUEENS & PACKAGE BEES FOR 1950

Young bees, no drones, tested Italian
strain line bred for honey
production.

SPECIAL

One thousand new comb honey
supers for immediate shipment.
Bargain price.

Southland Apiaries
BALL, LOUISIANA, U. S. A.

Italian Package Bees and Queens

F. E. MORRISON

Route 3, Box 3696, Auburn, Calif.

KOEHNEN'S
Package Bees and Queens
For Quality and Service
KOEHNEN'S APIARIES
GLENN, CALIFORNIA

ARE YOU LOSING BEESWAX?

We render old combs, cappings, and slumgum for beekeepers. Our steam wax presses get every available ounce of wax out of this material. Send for terms.

DADANT & SONS, Inc.

Hamilton, Illinois

All Around the Bee Yard

Just got home (October 18) from the north (northern Minnesota). No, not a vacation. Far from it. We have a commercial honey production plant there near Lake-of-the-Woods. It's Paul Bunyan country, but I'll try to tell the truth about it.

Just read an account in "The Beekeepers Magazine" (Sept.) about "Cap" Merris' bear raid. "Cap," you ain't seen nuthin yet! Few berries in the north; Bruin's food is scarce all around so he took what he could from the bee yards. One man killed over thirty bears for bounty and pelts. Our boys killed four, one landlord killed one. Several pot-shotted visitors never came back,—but what they did before that!

In one yard, a big bear knocked down seven or eight hives with the crop still on and scattered frames and shells high, wide and handsome. The other bees saved the honey and the damage to hive bodies or super shells is low. But the combs and frames are demolished. We took the crop then but left the hives with combs. Bruin came back for more and scattered another half dozen hives around the landscape. Then we took out the hives, leaving nothing but the fence, which the visitor had broken down to suit himself. He came back again and he must have been mad because he trotted over to the neighbor's house, raised his furry body on hind legs to growl and peer into the window in protest.

Another three year old, followed a river, beginning at it's mouth, and toppled over hives progressively in three yards until he was trapped.

Electric fences are, at best, only partial protection. The bears find a way through somehow. Snares occasionally help but more often they are wrecked, including the surrounding brush, as the bear fights his way to freedom. Best way is to relocate in spots where bears seldom visit—if you can.

It is often said that if the beekeeper has a sound understanding of what bees do and when, under the variations of their environment (bee behavior), location is of little importance. The bee-wise beekeeper will know just what to do always.

G. H. Cale

Tush, tush! I think few have more experience in different type of locations than we have, and to learn what to do and when to do it in each place is always like Columbus' voyage of discovery. No matter how much we know about each place in which we have kept bees before, the problems of the new place are different. This is particularly true of the far north. As beekeepers from the central states, the problems of that region nearly threw us. After ten years, we are still learning.

One characteristic of the north country is that it is tough on bees. We have tried various kinds of bees, both the Italian race and the Caucasian bees from quite a number of different breeders; bees of our own hybrid stock. If any good, honey-producing strain can stand up to the weather and vagaries of that country, it is a darn good one.

We now have a location among the Cornish people in southwestern Wisconsin. It has all the earmarks of a good place but the production problems there promise to be just as tricky as those we have encountered in other places. At present we are in the green-as-grass stage and we have made mistakes. Ask us five years from now how to keep bees there and we may be able to tell you something about it.

Looks fairly certain now that honey will be supported in price by the Government—thanks to a hard working Federation. At last we have a national organization that is not just a social body but one that is rapidly working out our industrial problems.

If this price support is at a figure that will allow most of us who produce honey in volume to secure a return that will insure production costs at least, then the incentive to increase profitable marketing efforts will still lead us forward into a decent program of honey distribution. If the price we are guaranteed is too high, we will stop trying to sell. It will

be too easy to make a profit from Uncle Sam. The consumer too must not be asked to buy honey at a price level on the retail market that will drive him away. The consumer is fickle. You can lead him to water but you can't make him drink, unless he wants to.

I get quite incensed at the commonly accepted grading of honey by color. The discrimination against honey that is not white comes from the buyer's attempt to buy honey for less; the darker the honey the less they pay. Chemically the darker honey has more food value. Often the darker honey tastes better. I have never yet found a customer who cares a whoop about color, when honey suits his palate. It's time we accepted grading based on qualities other than color. Some of the worst honey I have tasted was white.

About my remarks last month that my son does not use honey as a milk modifier for the new grandson, C. B. Waldron writes:

O Mr. Cale, it makes me quail
To hear your boy's not raised on
honey.

If this you've done, a bee-man's son,
It isn't wise, or even funny.

I guess because it's Nature's laws
The young must always have their
head:

The preacher's brat takes to a gat—
Republican's gal becomes a Red.

But even though your way you'll go,
With honey give your babe a break—
Colds will be fewer, bones stay
newer,
And less of Junior's teeth will ache.

Don't take my word, perhaps you've
heard

Of Dr. Beck? Do read his book.

If your Missus has vision, she'll
change your decision,
So let her also have a look.

EPILOGUE

There's many a pain
From the sugar-cane,
And ills are born
From syrup of corn,
But, by Hector,
You can't beat nectar—
That flower-dew so pure and sunny
Which bees make into luscious honey!

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AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, Hamilton, Ill.

Amsterdam Congress

(Continued from page 524)

stimulation is only of value as a source of water, and is harmful unless there is no source of drinking water near the apiary.

The Humble Bee—

A. Minderhoud, Holland. "Difference in Behavior Between Queen and Workers of the Humblebee in Collecting Food."

A record has been made of the behavior of the humblebee queen in collecting food before and after workers begin to assist her and the author advocates that bee experts should investigate more closely the nearest relatives of the honey bee, viz., *Apis indica*, *dorsata* and *floreana*.

Research—

R. Chauvin, France. "Beekeeping Research Institute at Bures-sur-Yvette."

This is an outline of the proposed activities of a state Institute for Beekeeping Research in France started only a few months ago.

E. G. Buritt, England—E. Crane, England. "Research and the Beekeeper in England."

These papers outline the recent organization set up in England to stimulate accurate observation of the rank and file beekeeper, to keep him informed of research activities and to promote research work requiring the cooperation of large scale observations in the field.

Throughout the Congress it was apparent that the need for more and more research is everywhere recognized, that steps are being taken to meet this need in many places, that existing research stations are striving to regain their equilibrium disturbed by the war and that future congresses may be expected to record a greater proportion of new work.

Following the Congress "Apimondia" was brought into being. This is an attempt to establish a world-wide organization of beekeepers. Among other things it will have the duty of organizing future congresses, producing an international magazine in three languages, English, French and German, making suggestions for the standardization of equipment and for the control of disease, etc. A Committee was formed to prepare a draft outline of the proposed organization; it consists of one delegate from each country represented, with a smaller executive committee of seven members.

There was general satisfaction that Dr. Morgenthaler consented to become the first secretary of the organization.

The next Congress will be held probably in 1951, and, if possible, Britain will be the venue.

Scotland.

Moses Quinby

(Continued from page 521)

careless operation resulted in odors that inspired the local name.

When Moses was sixteen, Samuel Underhill and two brothers came to the community and proposed the formation of a communist colony. This was of course not at all like present-day communism but was the sort of thing then rather common in this country, a plan under which people of limited means tried to improve their economic lot by combining forces. They formed the Forestville Commonwealth in May, 1826, and the tract of land occupied by the community included the William Quinby farm. Father William was not a member of the Commonwealth but his son John was. The Community lasted until October, 1827, at which time three members acting as trustees for the Community sold their land, one of the purchasers being John Quinby and another John Norbury, the future father-in-law of Moses Quinby. A year and a half may seem a short time for the existence of such a community, but it was actually longer than most of them lasted.

Another member of the Commonwealth was Henry C. Fosdick, a former member of the Haverstraw community and later a founder of a community at Kendell, Ohio. Henry married Tamar Quinby, a sister of William and aunt of Moses. This brings us back to the dairy.

When Moses was just of age, he took the trip mentioned earlier. The destination was Kendell, now included within the city limits of Massillon, Ohio, where Henry and Tamar Fosdick were living, so the trip was to visit his aunt and uncle. He reports many details of the journey, and whenever there is evidence of conditions at that time from other sources, the accuracy of Moses' descriptions is revealing. He tells of the salt evaporators at Syracuse, the aqueduct over the Genesee River at Rochester, the elaborate locks at Lockport and other things which can be obtained from records of the

times. The thing of present interest to us is the enthusiasm of the young man on his first trip from home, with eyes and ears open, and probably with his mouth closed, for he was never talkative.

(To be continued)

Disappearance of AFB In Hawaii

(Continued from page 515)

3. A quarantine on the importation of queens to Hawaii practically eliminated their introduction up until about 1945. This encouraged interbreeding and the fixing of inheritable traits toward AFB resistance. Because of the distance involved, prior to air service, I practiced introducing from two to five queens from the mainland about every third year, requeening the apiary from daughters of these queens. This improved the stock and also tended to perpetuate resistance because of the influence of drones of the local stock. The writer has introduced untested queens for breeding purposes from California, Texas, Indiana, Tennessee, and Louisiana. In no case did it appear that brood of mainland queens was more susceptible to AFB than brood of local queens.

If I were asked to try the sulfa treatment or any other treatment for AFB in Hawaii, I don't know where I could find enough disease to test it.

Hawaii.

Another British Bee Book

"Beekeeper's Folly" is the title of a 260-page clothbound book written by John R. Ratcliff and published by MacDonald & Co. of London. The book retails for 15 shillings (about \$3.00).

Mr. Ratcliff is a practical beekeeper, as can be seen by his writings. He makes no claim for his book as a text book; it "deals more with errors and pitfall." Nevertheless, we feel that the author has added considerably to beekeeping literature, particularly for the beginner and for the solution of many common problems in the apiary. The book reads well and is authoritative. His treatises on the heathers, on artificial divisions, and on seasonal routine are especially well done.

History of a Breeding Project

(Continued from page 525)

from side to side, and muttering about the artistic color and beauty of the golden bee, now rises and leaves the assembly room.)

Mr. Wise, continuing: "At this time I should like to point out to you the advances which have been made in a honey-producing bee during the last year. Previously our production rate had climbed to 61%. Last year's tests proved conclusively that hybrid combination number 1139 has now bettered that record and shows a production rate of 74%. It is significant that the last 20 years of breeding effort has shown an increase—however small—each succeeding year. To a great extent this has been brought about because of the pioneer work in hybridizing farm crops and animals which took place during the 1920's and 1930's.

As you all know, our production rates are based upon the producing capabilities of a line-bred strain of bees which has been perpetuated over the last twenty years. A production rate indicates the increased production of the hybrid stock over the production of this controlled line-bred check stock. Thus, in this past season, combination number 1139 produced 270 pounds of honey while the check colonies were producing 155 pounds of honey.

Of course, you all realize the work that has been done in regional production. Hybrid number 1139 is best adapted to the midwestern area. Other hybrids are available for your own particular area—for example, number 1138 shows a production rate of 73% and is adapted to the intermountain area, and number 1137 has a production rate of 71% and is adapted to the southern states area. Our publication, "Federation News Letter," is available to all beekeepers and complete lists are available in it. These lists give the combination number, the production rate, the recommended use area, and the origin of each hybrid.

This short report would be by no means complete if I were to dwell only upon pollination and honey production. Other traits have been greatly improved in the honey bee, although these traits are somewhat lost in the towering economic shadows of pollination and honey production. Surely the almost total absence of bee diseases attributable

to bacteria has had its part in our general business welfare these past years. The control over temper, non-swarmer, hardiness, longevity, have all played their role in building the better bees which we enjoy today. I would refer all members of this organization to the "News Letter," which will keep all of you informed upon the various and complex advancements which are being made and planned for our benefit.

In conclusion I want to express my own deep respect for the efforts of another organization—the American Bee Breeders Association—for the great role which they have played in our industry and for the even greater contributions which I am sure that they will make in the future. Thank you."

(Thunderous applause greets Mr. Wise as he steps down from the speakers' platform and returns to his chair.)

I blink my eyes and snap back to the world of realities. As this is written the ground outside my window is covered with hard ice from the recent sleet storm. Winking at me out there in the fog are the pilot lights which indicate that the heaters under the colonies and nuclei are still doing their job of providing insurance against the winter loss of our stock.

This world of realities is quite a jolt! Bee breeding has a long way to go yet. Long years of struggle and work lie ahead of us and no one can accurately predict the future. Surely we—the entire industry—have a long way to go and much important work to accomplish. Surely the future is a challenge to all of us. We cannot predict the future—we can only face it with the firm conviction that better bees are possible and probable. That, in our time, **there will be better bees.**

Captures Bee Tree After 10-Year Hunt

Philip C. Johnson of Shutesbury, Massachusetts, had been trying unsuccessfully for the last ten years to locate a bee tree. His patience was finally rewarded when he succeeded in locating one in the northern part of the town. The tree, a hemlock, had been struck by lightning years ago, making a large opening through which the bees had entered and set up housekeeping.

The tree was 25 inches across the

butt, 19 inches at the tip, and 17 feet high. Mr. Johnson plugged up the entrance, sawed the tree, and capped the end of the log. A yoke of oxen, owned by Victor Tenney, was used to transport the log and the bees to the home of Mr. Johnson.

When Mr. Johnson started to transfer the bees from the log to some regular hives, he found that there were four separate large swarms in the log. The bees were of the Italian black type and it is estimated that they may have lived in this tree for about ten years.

It is considered the largest bee tree ever found in this vicinity. During operations no one was stung and no smoke used to quiet them.

Mr. Johnson had been hunting for this tree for about three weeks, and here's how he succeeded in tracking the bees to their tree hive. First a few bees are fed sugar and water in a box and then marked with red lead. The bees are then allowed to go and are timed as they return with others to feed on the sugar.

"After that," smiled Mr. Johnson, "it's just a question of following the old 'Beeline' and the red color enables you to track them back to their home."

Edward F. Perreault, Mass.

1949 Honey Crop

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics is out with an October 1 report on honey production. Their figures show an approximate total 1949 production of 229 million pounds of honey as against 208 million a year ago or a gain of 11 per cent. A large part of this is due to a good crop instead of a partial failure in the Middle West, and very good crops in Florida, South Georgia, Virginia and Texas.

The per colony average is 36 pounds as against a five year average of 38.7 pounds for a five year period.

Surprising are the figures showing only a drop of 2 per cent in number of colonies of bees as compared to 1948. We would guess it nearer to 10 per cent.

The demand for honey could not be filled if 2½% of the gross income from beekeeping were wisely expended each year for advertising.

Glenn O. Jones, Sec'y-Treas.
American Beekeeping Federation

Crop and Market

Crop Compared to 1948

Government reports give an 11 per cent increase in crops over 1948, as of October 1. We are inclined to discount this a little and believe they have not taken sufficiently into consideration the very great drop in number of colonies in many of the heavy producing sections. Some beekeepers even failed to fill up equipment at all where bees were killed off for the winter.

As a general rule the following conditions prevail. The following states are below 1948 production: all New England States, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, the Carolinas, north Georgia, Ohio, Indiana, north Michigan, Louisiana, Arkansas, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Montana, Colorado, Nevada, and California.

A substantially better crop has been raised throughout most of the Central West owing to the complete failure last year. Florida and southern Georgia report a much better crop as well as do Virginia and Maryland, southern sections of Michigan, Minnesota and the Dakotas. Idaho, Wisconsin and a few other states are about up to normal conditions.

Practically all of the honey is harvested except in those aster areas where, owing to the lateness of the season, the aster flow is still on. However, the early heartsease and Spanish needle flows have not materialized and the aster flow will not do much more than crowd the hive bodies for winter. In other words, the fall flow cannot be counted on for much surplus.

Quality

In practically all sections the quality is average or better although where the flow has been slow as would be expected, the quality runs more to amber. It is our belief, however, that there will not be nearly as much amber honey to dispose of this year as a year ago, inasmuch as the previous year's carry-over has been pretty well disposed of. Likely the amber honey will either be used for mixing in getting a blend or will be disposed of readily to bakers, although low prices for the amber grades are indicated.

The Canadian provinces have not repeated the big crop of last year.

M. G. Dadant

Quebec, Ontario, and Manitoba all show less honey than last year whereas Saskatchewan and Alberta probably have equal and British Columbia a heavier production.

Prices Asked

Here we find a great variation due largely to the fact that buyers have not been active unless they were in a position to dispose of their honey promptly or could buy at a very advantageous price. This means that prices asked on amber honey have run from as low as 5½ cents per pound to as high as 9 cents per pound depending on the situation of the individual beekeeper. White grades have run from 8½ cents to 12 cents also under the same conditions.

As a general rule there has been a tendency to wait on the final agricultural bill and the possibility that honey would be included in the price control as it apparently has at this date (October 18). It remains to be seen just where parity will be set and whether price controls which apparently are mandatory will be F. O. B. producer's point or F. O. B. some other point.

Quotations by Jobbers

Here, again, we find great discrepancy. Buyers who were buying for future sale, of course, were buying "safely" and thus we learn in California of prices as low as 5 to 5 2/3 for amber and 8 cents for white honey. The tendency has been to suggest taking honey on commission or not making any offer whatever.

From our reporters' standpoint, however, it is apparent that most of the quotations were on the basis of about 7½ to 8 cents for amber and 9 to 10 cents for white honey. We have had several reports from individuals stating that they had sold white honey at a price of 10 cents delivered to the packing plant although some have sold somewhat higher than this.

In the southern areas where a producer had bulk comb honey to sell with his extracted he was in a

position to ask a much better price than for extracted alone, as the volume of bulk comb produced will not anywhere meet the demands of the bulk comb packers and the bulk comb users in southern areas.

This indicates the desirability of going more to a comb and bulk comb production. In fact the drifting away from comb honeys was unwarranted.

Summary

All in all we can expect a very definite stiffening and particularly a very definite leveling off of markets as the farm bill goes through and as honey price levels are established. It is estimated that white honey prices may be established around 10 to 11 cents per pound with amber grades somewhat lower.

The price stabilization should most certainly have a salutary effect upon retail prices of honey. We look for definite withdrawals as time goes on of the very low prices on some honeys which as we have mentioned in the past have been as low as 65 cents retail for a 5-lb. pail and 19 cents for a 1-lb. jar. These prices, of course, would not be justified with honey costing from 8 to 10 cents for amber and 10 to 13 cents for white.

Although we question the Bureau's figures on a larger crop in 1949 than in 1948, there is no doubt that the beekeepers themselves are in a better position to meet the situation this year than they were a year ago and most certainly many more of them are getting in a situation to dispose of their own honey at retail and wholesale rather than to depend entirely on the cooperatives and general jobbing channels. This in itself will have a desirable effect on the volume offered at jobbing prices.

It is our sincere belief that while the production per colony may be higher on an average through the country this year there have been fewer colonies to produce the crop, particularly in the hands of the very large producer who looked askance at making up his losses by buying packages when there was no assurance that honey prices would be at a point where he could make both ends meet. If he had been assured of at least a 10-cent price on his honey and a good opportunity for anticipating a 75-pound to a 100-pound crop the situation would have been different.

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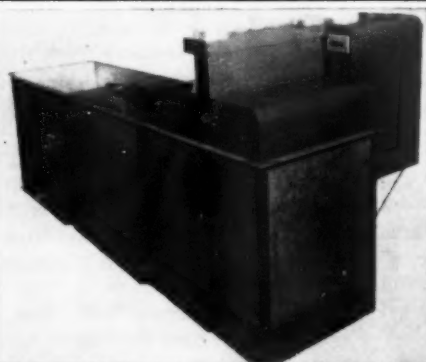
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The Postscript

Enthusiastic reports of anise-hyssop for bee pasture continue to come in. One beekeeper who plants a little every year writes that he expects to continue until he has 20 acres, since it is the only plant which is more attractive to the bees than sweet clover. Many beekeepers are so situated as to find it worth while to plant unused land for bee pasture.

In our test garden there has been no other plant that attracted the bees so consistently in all kinds of weather for so long a period of time as the anise-hyssop. Here it is in bloom for three to four months.

Beekeepers who harvest honey from unusual sources not generally available will do well to make an effort to create a demand for their special product. Andre Prost of 150 Front St., New York City, is making an effort to supply his customers with the kind of honey they want. He has a long list ranging from orange and clover to wild cherry, spearmint, blueberry and mesquite. Every large city offers opportunity to develop markets for special flavors. Customers who become accustomed to the highly flavored honeys are more permanent than those who prefer the mild flavored clover honey so generally available.

With our recent mention of doubt as to whether the pure German or black bees could still be found in this country, comes word from Curtis L. Woodruff, Crescent City, California, that there are plenty of them in Del Norte County, California. One colony made 200 pounds of comb honey for him before the first of September last year. He described them as gentle bees with no trace of the brown banding so common among bees of other parentage.

It is said that more books have been written about bees than any other subject relating to agriculture. In the American Bee Journal reference library there are many hundreds of them from over the world. Nobody knows for sure how many publications there are including the hundreds of bulletins and magazines relating to bee culture. The one person who knows most about it is Mrs. Minnie King who joined the

Frank C. Pellett

staff in April 1911. When we get stuck with some unanswered question we always say, "ask Minnie." If she doesn't know she will find out if it takes all day. No system of filing



will enable one to find all the references in such a library but Minnie has a way of digging them out after the rest of us have failed. If she can't find it, probably it is not there.

Few people realize how many bee magazines there are published. There are more or less complete files of 96 different bee magazines in the library although many of them have been suspended and are no longer available. Prior to the war about 50 were on our exchange list. The American Bee Journal is the oldest publication relating to bees in the English language. It was founded in 1861. The British Bee Journal first appeared in 1873. The French *L'Apiculteur* is older than either dating from 1856. It is doubtful whether a complete file of that magazine can be found in America outside the Bee Journal library.

With all the effort to find a slogan to catch the popular fancy with the merit of honey, nobody has as yet suggested anything which compares to the florists' "Say it With Flowers." To be effective a slogan must be good and there are but few really good ones.

The best thought that comes to me

is, "There is no substitute for honey." This carries the subtle suggestion that honey is superior to other sweets. Who has a better idea?

For sixty years the Chapman Honey Plant, commonly called by others than beekeepers "globe thistle," has aroused much interest on the part of those who would improve the bee pasture. Yet in this country nobody has done much about it. In some European states it is reported as providing good silage which increases the milkflow of cows fed upon it. In our test garden it reaches a height of six to seven feet. From Germany, Richmond Piper sends photos of plants growing in his garden at Hamburg from seed from our test garden. His plants reached a height of about twelve feet which is much above any that we have grown. He calls the plant, "honey thistle" which is an appropriate name.

When visiting Maynard S. Grunder at the Experiment Station at Puyallup, Washington, he took me to see a field of nine acres of the Wagner pea, which is discussed in the October number of this magazine. This field was established by setting transplanted plants 8x8 feet apart. It was amazing that plants set so far apart could provide such a stand as we saw in that field. It appears to be the best way to get a stand since the seed can be started in hotbeds or a greenhouse and transplanted after well rooted. In this way much weeding while the plants are small is eliminated and a little seed goes a long way. I would prefer setting the plants two or three feet apart in the row with rows four to six feet apart.

A. G. Woodman reports more honeydew gathered the past season in Michigan than he ever knew before. Some of it came from the pine trees. In Germany a black honeydew from the pines is regarded as of special value in some localities. While honeydew is usually of poor quality and unsuited for table use there are some who prefer it. It is highly important to remove it from the hives before winter in places where temperatures drop to a low point. Too many beemen have lost their bees from trying to winter them on honeydew stores.

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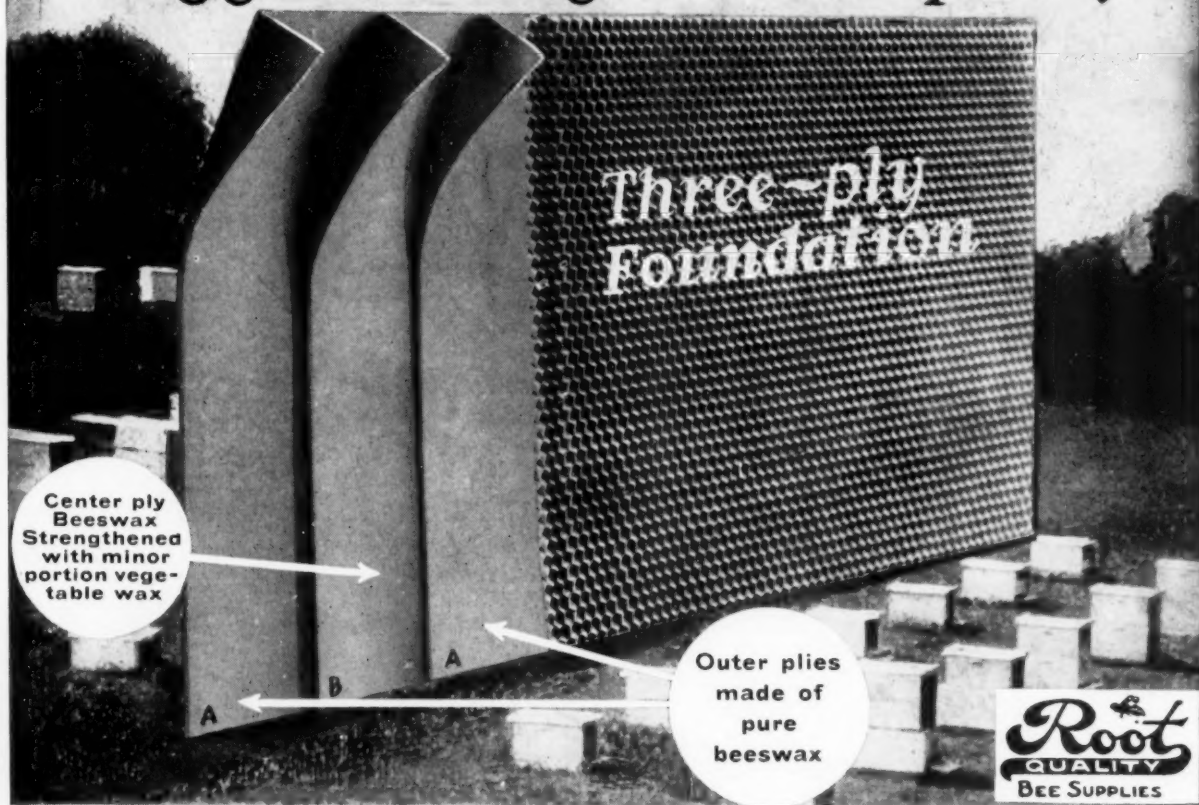
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